

# Arab news

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## TODAY IN Arab news

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## Shultz vows enduring, stable ties with China

PEKING, Feb. 5 (AP) — U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz set out a clear reorientation of U.S. policy toward China, avoiding the notion of Sino-American "strategic" cooperation, in a press conference here Saturday night.

Shultz, speaking at the end of his visit to China, said "China is a country of great importance" with which the United States would like to have solid relations.

He said in his talks with the country's influential elder statesman, Deng Xiaoping, he stressed the importance of "continuing to work for a stable and enduring relationship based on mutual trust."

But he fended off a question about the prospects for Sino-American "strategic cooperation" against the Soviet Union, a goal outlined after the normalization between the two countries four years ago, with the comment: "I prefer myself to think of the relationship as being a stable, enduring one, based on the direct contact between the United States and China."

The U.S. secretary of state refused to answer a question whether there were listening posts in China used by the United States, and so avoided denying published reports to this effect.

"That's the kind of question I don't touch with a ten-foot pole," he said.

Shultz, who met seven leading Chinese figures within four days here, including Deng Xiaoping, Premier Zhao Ziyang and Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian, said he hoped that the visit had contributed to "the development of understanding, trust and mutual confidence" between Peking and Washington.

During a banquet given in honor of Wu Saturday night, Shultz said: "We have made important progress in renewing and enriching the dialogue between our two governments."

Both Shultz and Chinese leaders have publicly recognized the persistence of disagreements between the United States and China.

Zhao Friday said the Taiwan question was the "main obstacle" to improving Sino-American relations.

But Shultz told reporters here: "We have made some commitments with respect to Taiwan and we intend to live by those commitments."

He mentioned, however, the Sino-American communiqué signed last August in which the United States said it intended to gradually reduce its arms sales to Taiwan, and China said that its "basic" policy was to reunify the island with the mainland.

Shultz said U.S. arms sales to China had not been discussed during his visit.

A State Department official traveling with Shultz said that Washington was ready to welcome "at any time," a Chinese official to discuss arms questions. This echoed an invitation made in 1981 when the United States decided to supply China with lethal weapons after an examination of each request.

Shultz also mentioned Chinese complaints about the difficulty of acquiring sophisticated American technology but said that in recent years there has been a "considerable increase" in exports of such technology from the United States to China.

## Bush clarifies stance on missile issue

GENEVA, Feb. 5 (R) — U.S. Vice President George Bush said Saturday that American nuclear missiles due to be deployed in Western Europe later this year could be withdrawn afterward if Washington reached an arms accord with Moscow.

"What goes in can come out," he told a news conference here when asked whether there was a "point of no return" after which the new medium-range missiles would become permanent fixtures.

"We are not departing from this moral objective of eliminating an entire generation of these weapons," he said at the end of a 24-hour visit to Geneva during which he met Soviet and U.S. arms negotiators and addressed the 40-nation committee on disarmament.

Bush repeated Washington's support for the "zero option," under which the American missiles would not be deployed if some 600 SS-20, SS-4 and SS-5 rockets already installed were dismantled. Moscow has repeatedly rejected this.

Asked whether Washington could accept an intermediate step allowing equal levels on both sides, he said: "If a sound, sensible proposal is brought in by the Soviets that fits that description, then so be it."

Bush, who planned to make a short visit to U.S. troops in Nuremberg, West Germany, before arriving in Rome later Saturday, added that this did not mean there was now no need to reach agreement on the "zero option" by year's end.

**Portugal dissolves parliament**

LISBON, Feb. 5 (AP) — President Antonio Ramalho Eanes has dissolved Portugal's parliament and called general elections for April 25 to end a seven-week political crisis sparked by Prime Minister Francisco Pinto Balsemão's resignation Dec. 20.

The elections, Portugal's 10th nationwide

## Poland dissolves parliament

poll since the 1974 coup that reinstated democracy nearly after half a century of right-wing dictatorship, will produce the country's 11th government in 9 years.

The date chosen by Eanes coincides with the ninth anniversary of the coup and could signal a swing back toward the political center following three years' administration by Pinto Balsemão's conservative three-party democratic alliance.

The dissolution and electoral decision brought to an end a national search for a governing solution begun with the prime minister's surprise resignation last month.

Pinto Balsemão announced his "irrevocable" decision weeks after his coalition's Social Democrats, Christian Democrats and Monarchists suffered losses in nationwide municipal elections, also cited mounting mudslinging among partners.

A week of squabbling over who would lead the alliance cabinet gave way to two further weeks of bickering over ministerial posts.

Eanes rejected the final coalition proposal that a former education minister form a new government and announced Jan. 23 he would dissolve parliament despite the alliance's 18-seat majority.

## Bolivia expels the 'butcher of Lyons'

LA PAZ, Feb. 5 (R) — Nazi intrigue Klaus Altmann was on his way back to France Saturday where he has twice been sentenced to death for war crimes committed 40 years ago.

Bolivian Interior Minister Mario Roncal said Altmann was expelled and put on a specially chartered plane to France Friday night for breaking immigration laws. The announcement ended 11 days of intense speculation over Altmann's fate since he was arrested on a La Paz street.

Roncal's statement at a press conference followed an elaborate operation to move Altmann from the city jail, involving decoys, fast cars and hundreds of heavily armed police.

Altmann, 69, was known as Klaus Barbie during World War II when he served as a Nazi intelligence officer in the occupied city of Lyons in central France. Both France and West Germany have sought extradition of the man called "the butcher of Lyons."

He is held responsible for sending hundreds of resistance fighters to their deaths, and is wanted in particular for his alleged role in the killing of Jean Moulin, head of the French resistance movement to Nazi occupation.

Barbie fled to South America along with many other Nazis after Hitler's Third Reich crumbled in 1945. He arrived in Bolivia and was granted citizenship under his assumed name in 1957. It was apparently the change of name that finally led to his downfall.

Roncal said Friday night that a German citizen named Klaus Barbie was being deported because he was in Bolivia illegally. The man known as Altmann, he said, had admitted that his real name was Barbie.

Altmann was arrested last week over an eight-year-old debt of \$10,000 to the state mining company, Comibol. The debt involved a shipping firm which he managed during a business career that included deals with the country's military government.

But 18 years of almost uninterrupted military rule in Bolivia ended three months ago and the new leftist civilian government decided that he was no longer welcome. The debt was repaid and an order for Altmann's release was signed Friday night. It turned out to be a one-way flight back to France instead of a ticket to freedom.

Altmann was hustled out of the main La Paz jail with a blanket over his head and put into a jeep which sped him directly to the airport. Earlier, a hooded decoy left the prison with a junior minister and set off in a car at high speed. The hooded man was escorted into the airport VIP lounge while Altmann was being bundled aboard a Hercules transport plane in the military section of the airport.

Altmann was expected to arrive in Paris at 1600 GMT Saturday. Airport sources said the plane would stop in French Guayana on the way but it was not clear whether he would change planes there. Asked why such elaborate security measures were taken, the minister replied: "We had to protect his life."



## City accords reception to King Fahd

By a Staff Writer

JEDDAH, Feb. 5 — Representatives of the people of Jeddah held a reception in honor of King Fahd at the international airport here Saturday.

The dinner party, highlighted by speeches and poems, was attended by hundreds of prominent citizens from all walks of life.

Similar functions were held by the people of Makkah and Madinah recently and other cities too are planning to express their love and loyalty to the King in a like manner.

## Egypt, Israel top list

## U.S. arms aid set at \$9b

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5 (AP) — Egypt and Israel were awarded the lion's share (\$1.1 billion) in the \$9.2 billion foreign military aid budget proposed Friday by the U.S. government for fiscal 1984.

The draft budget, which does not include straight economic aid, calls for a \$400 million increase over the amounts allotted for the current fiscal year ending Sept. 30.

A senior Defense Department official said that 70 percent of the military aid would go to countries such as Spain, Portugal, Greece, Turkey and the Philippines, where the United States has bases.

Another 20 percent was earmarked for countries such as Pakistan, South Korea, Thailand and Indonesia which were "threatened by hostile neighbors."

Much of the remainder was for areas such as Central America and the Caribbean where "U.S. interests are threatened by economic instability," said the senior official, who declined to be named.

The draft budget was divided among straight military aid, in the form of credits for purchase of hardware from the United States, and "economic support funds" destined to strengthen the military infrastructure of countries in which the United States has a strategic interest.

The draft assigned to Turkey — which "desperately needs to modernize its forces" — more military aid (\$930 million) than that allocated to all the other members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) combined.

Greece was scheduled for \$280 million, though official sources here said that amount could be increased after an "acceptable agreement" with the Socialist government in Athens on the future of U.S. bases in Greece.

Other NATO members due to receive substantial sums were Spain (\$412 million) and Portugal (\$145 million).

In Asia, Pakistan was to be the main beneficiary, with a \$50 million increase over the current year's \$475 million.

Other Asian allocations, including military credits and "economic support" funds, were \$250 million for South Korea, \$105 million

## 20 killed, 70 hurt in Beirut explosion

BEIRUT, Feb. 5 (AP) — A car bomb triggered by remote control exploded in front of the Palestinian Research Center and the Libyan Embassy in West Beirut, setting both buildings aflame and killing 20 persons, police said.

At least 70 persons were also injured in the blast, which rattled windows throughout the central Hamra shopping district of the city's Muslim sector and sent a towering cloud of brown smoke and debris skyward about 2 p.m. (1200GMT).

Among the dead were three Lebanese police guards and 17 plainclothesmen, who apparently had been keeping the offices under surveillance were injured, police said.

Panicked and screaming occupants of the seven-story research center were seen jumping from the lower floors and others scrambled down drain pipes on the side of the building. Some even tore curtains from office windows and used them as ropes to escape.

The force of the blast stripped the facade from the fifth floor offices of the Libyan News Agency, revealing book lined shelves and still-burning lamp.

"I was on the first floor when the whole world went black around me," said Hilweh, a young Palestinian cleaning woman who works in the research center. "I ran to the

elevator but the fallen ceiling blocked the way, so I raced to the balcony ... and jumped. The (civil defense workers) caught me."

Associated Press photographer Zuhair Saade was driving near the site when the explosion took place. "The blast hurled by car onto the sidewalk. I saw tongues of flames shooting out of the two buildings and scores of panicked women shrieked."

There was shattered glass and masonry within a 100-meter radius of the explosion, which showered papers and debris on the American University of Beirut campus several blocks away.

Police Sgt. Youssef Bitar said the blast was caused by 60 kilograms of hexogene, a liquefied gas, that was placed in a car. He said the force of the blast was equivalent to 240 kilograms (528 pounds) of TNT.

The car, described by one Lebanese radio station as a blue, American-made model, was parked in front of the research center, where remaining Palestine Liberation Organization officials are headquartered and across the street named Karakas from the temporary quarters of the Libyan Embassy and its news agency.

A shadowy group believed to be rightist and known as the "front for the Liberation of Lebanon from Foreigners" claimed responsibility for the bombing in a call to the "Voice of Lebanon" radio station of the Christian Phalangist Party.

"The front warns all Lebanese everywhere in Lebanon that any block or neighborhood would have the same fate if it houses any foreign organization," the broadcast quoted an anonymous caller as saying.

But the radio cast doubt on the authenticity of the responsibility claim, saying its name was used by various groups in the past.

Saturday's explosion ripped through the building five minutes before its 50 staff were due to go home for the weekend, throwing up a mushroom cloud of dust and smoke and reducing several cars in the street to flaming wrecks.

Civil defense workers and police struggled to lift the smoking ruins of one car to free someone trapped underneath. Crowds of local people swarming in the street fled in panic as a rumor spread that the car was also booby-trapped.

It was the second PLO building to be the target of a car bomb in a week: On Jan. 28, a remote-controlled device set off a car bomb at the three-story PLO security headquarters in the eastern Lebanese town of Saida. Sixty-one bodies, many Palestinian commanders and Syrian security men were recovered from the rubble of the blast which the mysterious front also claimed responsibility for.

The explosion came at a time of rising sectarian tensions which included battles in the mountains east of Beirut between Christian militiamen and fighters from the Druze sect that have claimed 150 lives since November.

The District Police Commissioner, Salim Salim, told reporters the bombing was an attempt "to get two birds with one stone."

PLO officials have maintained privately that there was a campaign underway to force the nation's half-million Palestinians to flee the country.

## Swedes develop collapsible house

STOCKHOLM, Feb. 5 (SP) — A collapsible aluminum emergency building, weighing only 850 kg, has been developed by Granges Aluminium, Lidings, near Stockholm. Dubbed "The Flexible House", it has a height of only 40 cm in a collapsed state, enabling six units to be easily loaded on a lorry, one on top of the other. Erection takes only a few minutes using a conventional air pump.

The building, which is insulated with foam plastic, can be used in both warm and cold climates. Primarily intended as a temporary emergency structure, the flexible house can also be utilized at large building sites and for military purposes, say the manufacturers.

## Moderate turnout in Delhi election

NEW DELHI, Feb. 5 (AP) — Polls closed throughout the capital city and environs Saturday and India began the overnight wait for municipal election results that were expected to offer another gauge of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's popularity and vote-getting ability. The turnout of voters was moderate.

No major incidents were reported during the eight hours of balloting. Despite the frenzied electioneering of the past few days and the mild weather, the turnout was fairly moderate.

An estimated 60 percent of the 3.3 million qualified voters cast ballots for the Delhi Metropolitan Council, the legislative arm of the capital territory, and its subordinate administrative body, the Delhi Municipal Corporation. Both were legally dissolved by Mrs. Gandhi's government three years ago.

Heightening suspense over the results expected late Sunday, candidates of the opposition Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) took a 2-1 lead over Mrs. Gandhi's Congress Party in the three contests decided Saturday by electric voting machines introduced on an experimental basis. All other races used old-fashioned ballot boxes to be counted only on Sunday.

The capital region, officially known as the Union Territory of Delhi has a population of 6.5 million. Four hundred candidates battled for the 56 metropolitan council seats and 751 candidates for the 100 municipal corporation places. The government assigned 20,000 police and 18,000 other employees to maintain security at and around the 3,645 polling places.

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**By Philip Shehadi**  
*Arab News Staff*

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The first book show was held in 1979



**SALES SEMINAR:** The Jeddah Chamber of Commerce and Industry has organized a six-day seminar on "Developing the Capacity of Salesman". Shown here are private sector participants attending the opening session of the seminar on Saturday.

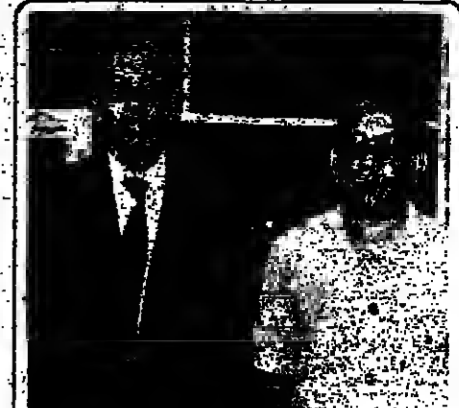
By Suresh Shah  
Arch News Staff

"This is one of our programs for this year to develop working in the private sector and train professionals to meet the increasing need of such persons in the Kingdom," he said.

The next day discussion will cover ways of communication in the sales field, followed by planning of sales meetings on Tuesday. During the last two days subjects to be discussed include how to convince customers and problems in sales, with special reference to the conditions in Saudi Arabia. All these days, a case study will be made on the subject discussed early in the day, in order to make the seminar more interesting, he added.

**By K.S. Ramkumar**  
*Arab News Staff*

The delegation has been extended an invitation to visit Pakistan.



**NATIONAL DAY:** Sri Lankan Ambassador to Saudi Arabia Muhammad Reyaf Thasini, left, is shown here greeting guests who attended his country's national day festivities at the embassy Friday evening.

The conference will also discuss the outcome of the 7th conference and combining the Information Relations Committee and the Oil Information Committee into one committee.



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مكتبة ابن النجار

## Arabic speaking computer developed

RIYADH, Feb. 5 (SPA) — A Saudi Arabian engineer has developed a computer which speaks Arabic. Dr. Muhammad Mahmoud Mandoura, a professor at King Saud University's Electric Engineering Section, has modified an ordinary computer and programmed it to speak Arabic, by transforming English vocal signals.

Dr. Mandoura told *Al-Riyadh* that the computer cannot speak Arabic as fluently as a person whose mother tongue is Arabic. The next phase in Dr. Mandoura's research program will be to let the computer assimilate and process instructions given to it in Arabic. The difficulty lies in the various dialects and voice tones of speakers.

Dr. Mandoura said he managed to offset the shortage in the English language which does not comprise several sounds of the Arabic alphabet by associating several English oral sequences. The ultimate objective of Saudi Arabian scientists is to devise a computer that uses Arabic outright rather than transform English into Arabic signals.

The new computer will give lectures to students and discuss with them their various subjects. It will ask questions to which they will reply orally or by using a console typewriter. It will then correct their replies. It will also reply to banks customers. After they will dial a given number and tell their code the computer will give them their statement of account.

According to the inventor, the new computer will also be used in hospitals to give an immediate report on the patient's condition upon receiving a telephone call, especially when the doctor is away from hospital and wishes to assure himself of the patient's condition. It will also help in teaching Arabic to persons of different mother tongues, which will reduce the manpower needs especially of Islamic countries that hire Arab teachers.

Dr. Mandoura's research will be submitted to a scientific congress scheduled to be held in Jordan next April. The congress will be attended by Arab and foreign specialists on electronics and electrical engineering from all over the world.

### Saudi Telephone team, students moot employment

RIYADH, Feb. 5 — A delegation from Saudi Telephone met recently with graduating students of King Saud University, Riyadh Campus, to talk about possible employment at Saudi Telephone.

Led by Saleh Al Omair and Mansour Al-Kubaili, the delegation addressed graduating students from the faculty of administrative science and the college of engineering. The students were most impressed by two aspects that separated Saudi Telephone from other potential employers — the career path planning process and the counter part system.

The career path planning process is an ongoing training and development program that not only prepares Saudi nationals for



STEAK BUFFET: This photo shows only a small portion of the buffet with the different types of steak displayed in the middle of the table and numerous types of salads and cold vegetables arranged to the left and right of the steak.

## Steak buffet is really tasty, even without the main course

By Dave Kaiser  
Arab News Staff

JEDDAH, Feb. 5 — Steak-lovers and buffet-lovers should take note of the 'American Steak Night' held here Monday at the Al-Badr Sheraton Hotel. Not only is the steak tender and delectable, the accompanying buffet, featuring soup, salads, hot side dishes and dessert, is so good that the meal would be a delight even without the steak.

Diners at the Okaz Restaurant must pass the buffet table in order to be seated. The night's specials, filet, tenderloin and sirloin steak (your choice for SR65) are displayed on ice to help diners decide exactly which cut of meat they like best.

After being seated, many diners make the mistake of letting the buffet overpower them and forget to save room for the main course. It is easy to overdo at the buffet table and then when the tasty steak arrives you cannot finish it.

Is in many restaurants in Saudi Arabia, the steak should be ordered done slightly better than you prefer. If you order medium-rare here, it is likely to arrive rare, but of course it is easy to send it back to the kitchen for

another turn on the grill.

The steak arrives at the table still sizzling, served on a steak-board with a delectable topping of tasty (not-spicy) special herbs and spices. If you prefer your steak 'au naturel,' it should be ordered without the topping, but you will be missing a taste treat. The board is also decorated with very edible tomato wedge, stuffed cucumber and garnish.

The buffet is divided into three sections for salads, hot side dishes and desserts, with four kinds of soups located off to one side.

It's best to only sample the buffet items until the steak arrives and then return later. There are a nice assortment of salads including the normal mixed salad of lettuce, tomato and green pepper, with three home-made dressings to choose from. Also on the salad part of the buffet are an assortment of cold vegetables, potato salads, sauerkraut and even some cold Arab dishes like homus and tabuli.

## Prayer Times

	Makkah	Madinah	Riyadh	Dammam	Buraidah	Tabuk
Sunday						
Fajr (Dawn)	5:32	5:37	5:08	4:57	5:22	5:54
Dhuhr (Noon)	12:35	12:36	12:07	11:54	12:18	12:48
Asr (Afternoon)	3:49	3:47	3:18	3:03	3:27	3:54
Maghreb (Sunset)	6:14	6:11	5:42	5:27	5:51	6:18
Isha (Night)	7:44	7:41	7:12	6:57	7:21	7:48

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## Numerous museum projects under way in Riyadh area

RIYADH, Feb. 5 — A British company has won a contract for the conversion of the Masmak fortress here into a museum and will also provide facilities for visitors to enjoy one of the most notable historic buildings in Riyadh. The Saudi Arabian Department of Antiquities and Museum granted the contract to Michael Rice and Company Limited.

The move reflects the Department of Antiquities and Museums' concern to preserve buildings of historical or architectural importance throughout Saudi Arabia.

The Masmak fortress, a huge 100-room mud-built castle in the heart of the city, was captured by the then 21-year-old Prince Abdul Aziz bin Abdul Rahman Al-Saud, in 1901 in the first of what was to become the series of campaigns which were waged to unify most of the peninsula and to create, eventually, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The capture of the Masmak, then the stronghold of the city's governor who was the representative of a family which had seized control of Abdul Aziz' ancestral lands, was effected by the young prince and a small group of his followers and marked the beginning of one of the most remarkable stories of the 20th century.

The Masmak fortress was built by one of Abdul Aziz' forefathers, Prince Abdullah bin Faisal Al-Saud, in 1865. It has been completely restored by the Municipality of Riyadh and is now in the keeping of the Department of Antiquities and Museums.

Michael Rice and Company will prepare plans for making use of much of the fortress.

These will include exhibits dealing with the history of the fortress itself and of its capture. It will tell the story of the unification of Arabia under King Abdul Aziz and treat of traditional life in the central region of Arabia, the Najd, of which Riyadh is the capital. Some of the fortress' rooms will be furnished in traditional style and will be used as reception rooms for important government visitors.

A number of other museums are now in the process of being renovated in the Kingdom with Michael Rice and Company engaged in the planning and installation working principally under the direction of the Department of Antiquities and Museums. The firm designed the Museum of Archaeology and Ethnography here and is now working on a plan for a series of six museums and conservation centers to be built on major archaeological sites throughout the Kingdom.

The design phase of this project has been completed, in conjunction with Zuhair, Fayed and Associates architects of Jeddah and Riyadh. Construction will soon begin, after the appointment of contractors selected for the work. Two further sites will soon be added to the original six.

Michael Rice and Company has also been retained to advise the architects responsible for the planning of the projected National Museum, which will be built on a site adjacent to the historic Murabba Palace in Riyadh, another of the city's great mud-built monuments.

## MECOM '83 to highlight Saudi communication plans

BAHRAIN, Feb. 5 — The MECOM '83 — Middle East Communications and Electronic Show and Conference — will be inaugurated by the minister of transportation and telecommunication at the Exhibition Center here Monday.

Among the participants of the show, which will be held until Feb. 10, is the Saudi Arabian Telecommunications Company — SARTELCO, Sirti Group, which will demonstrate its capabilities to carry out telecommunication projects of all fields, especially microwave, coaxial cable, pipeline, railway telecommunication and local network on turn-key basis, through pictures and slides. According to Nusrat Baig Miza of SARTELCO, the emphasis will be given on the important telecommunication projects that SARTELCO has undertaken in the Kingdom.

The projects include backbone telecommunication, upgrading 12 MHz to 60 MHz, the east-west pipeline and construction of telephone telex system of Yanbu Industrial City.

Models of coaxial cable and optical cable joints will be displayed to demonstrate SARTELCO skill.

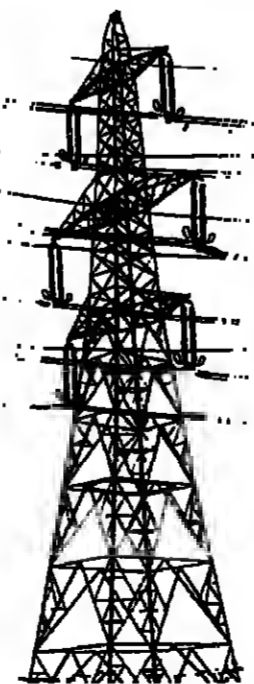
A big map of Saudi Arabia showing all long distance telecommunication networks in the Kingdom, 300 microwave stations spread along a 10,000-kilo meter distance and 200 kilometers of coaxial cable 12 MHz and 60 MHz from Taif to Dammam and Dammam to Khafji at the border of Kuwait will be displayed.

# MIDDLE EAST ELECTRICITY & ELECTRONICS EXHIBITION

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## PLO firm on military option -- Abu Iyyad

ABU DHABI, Feb. 5 (Agencies) — A leading PLO official Saturday asserted that the armed struggle remained the basic option for the Palestinian revolution until the people's rights were restored and an independent state was established on its national soil.

Salah Khalaf, (Abu Iyyad) second-in-command to PLO chairman, Yasser Arafat, in an interview to *Al-Ithad* and *Khalaj* newspapers categorically denied that there was any relationship between Palestinian-Jordanian confederation talks and the U.S. President Ronald Reagan initiative to establish Palestinian self-rule in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"To link them together is an attempt to split the Palestinian ranks. It will not succeed. We are supporting any democratic dialogue with any one provided it does not harm the PLO interests," he said. He added the Palestinian-Jordanian dialogue centers on establishing an independent Palestinian state with strong links with Jordan. This condition is contrary to the Reagan plan.

Abu Iyyad stressed PLO "Chairman (Yasser) Arafat is the most committed person to the unified Palestinian political program."

He denied that there were any political differences between Syria and the Palestinian revolution.

Meanwhile, Khalil Wazir, another PLO official said the commando organization is demanding U.S. recognition as the price for joining American-sponsored Middle East peace efforts. In an interview to the Association Press he said, Arafat and King Hussein

discussed the participation of Palestinians in a joint negotiating committee for deciding the future of West Bank.

But, he said, Arafat explained to King Hussein: "Every elderly Palestinian woman, every child, has sacrificed 34 years for one thing—to see a flag of Palestine, an independent Palestinian state. Any settlement (of the Palestinian problem) must include a Palestinian flag, a Palestinian passport, a Palestinian minister of foreign affairs and a Palestinian army."

"We have no trust in the American move (the Reagan plan)," he said. "We have no guarantees the Americans are ready to move to support Palestinian rights."

When asked if success in U.S. efforts to gain an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon and to stop Israeli settlement building in the West Bank would bring the PLO into the Reagan plan, Wazir replied: "Only U.S. recognition of the PLO, Palestinian rights" would do so.

Wazir said the possibility on non-PLO Palestinians from the West Bank and Gaza being used to get around the American refusal to recognize the PLO and get negotiations on the West Bank started was one of several possible tactics discussed by Arafat and King Hussein. But he said reports that Arafat had agreed were wrong.

"This was refused directly by the PLO. We refused to discuss it. We are fighting to stress the point that the PLO is the sole representative of the Palestinians and we will not permit anyone to discuss (a Palestinian settlement) except through the PLO," he said.

## Turkey drafts political bill

ANKARA, Feb. 5 (AP) — A new draft bill for political parties, designed to give more say to the rank-and-file and to curb the powers of party leadership, was made public Saturday. Professor Orhan Aldikacti, chairman of the consultative assembly committee that drafted the bill, told reporters the new measures would portend "the growth and establishment of a party oligarchy."

The draft bill, to come before the assembly floor for a debate and vote this month, will replace a previous law dating from 1965 and will complement a new constitution accepted by an overwhelming majority in a national referendum last November.

Aldikacti said he did not know when formation of new parties would be allowed by Turkey's military rulers following the passage of the party law.

Turkey's five top generals, who overthrew the civilian government in a bloodless coup in September 1980, have promised to return the nation to parliamentary democracy through general elections scheduled to be held in October.

The preparation and legislation of a new election law is on the agenda of the assembly before elections can be held.

The draft bill on political parties reiterates restrictions on party activity and against former political leaders spelled out in the constitution.

The generals dissolved the parliament and all political parties after their coup. The new constitution bars 100 veteran politicians and party leaders from any political activity for

the next 10 years. Other members of the previous parliament can run for office but cannot be among the funding leaders of the new parties.

The constitution and the new bill forbid the establishment of parties advocating a Marxist, fascist or theocratic system for this NATO-member country. Parties violating these stipulations face closure by the constitutional court. Under the new bill members could receive minimum prison terms of five years for such offenses and be restricted in future political activity.

Candidates for parliamentary seats are to be elected by the votes of all registered party members in a given district and the central executive organs of the party cannot veto their choice, the bill says.

## Three brothers hanged in Turkey

ANKARA, Feb. 5 (R) — Three brothers convicted of murder in 1974 were executed in the central Turkish town of Akschir Saturday after their death sentences were ratified by the ruling generals Friday night, the semi-official Anatolian news agency said.

The hangings brought to 38 the number of executions since capital punishment was revived after the 1980 military coup. 15 of them carried out this year. Most of the victims were convicted of political violence.

## Zia planning to ban public marches

ISLAMABAD, Feb. 5 (R) — President Muhammad Zia ul-Haq, said Saturday that public rallies and marches would be banned under the Islamic political system he plans to give the country.

Gen. Zia told reporters that under the system he has promised to unveil by Aug. 14, the 36th anniversary of Pakistan's independence, politicians will have to find other means, such as indoor meetings, to make contact with the people.

He suspended Pakistan's Western-style parliamentary system after seizing power in 1977 and toppled Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto.

The big outdoor political rallies and marches traditionally held in Pakistan wasted time and disrupted normal life, Gen. Zia said Saturday.

It was not right, he said, for any politician

to proclaim to 100,000 people at a public meeting that he had the answer to everything.

The president, who banned all political parties in 1979, said he was studying whether parties could function within an Islamic system and what the role of the armed forces should be.

He said that in a developing country like Pakistan, the armed forces should maintain stability, including political stability, "but not act as a sword hanging over politicians." Gen. Zia gave no indication when he planned to hold twice-postponed elections under the new system.

Earlier Saturday he opened a session of the civilian advisory council, appointed early last year as an interim parliament, and asked it to expedite suggestions for the new Islamic system. The 287-member council can only make recommendations.

## Moscow admits losses in Afghanistan

MOSCOW, Feb. 5 (AP) — A Soviet newspaper Saturday made a rare admission to its public that Soviet troops are being killed by freedom fighters in Afghanistan.

The unusual admission, published by the newspaper *Komsomolskaya Pravda*, coincided with a visit to Moscow by Afghan Defense Minister Lt. Gen. Abdul Qader.

The official news agency Tass said Qader held talks on "matters of mutual interest" Saturday with his Soviet counterpart, Marshal Dmitri Ustinov, but gave no other details.

*Komsomolskaya Pravda*, daily newspaper of the Communist Party's youth organization, printed a report that named Soviets who died in Afghanistan and described exactly how they perished in an attack by freedom fighters disguised as Afghan soldiers.

It was the only time since Soviet troops went into Afghanistan in December 1979 to prop up the pro-Moscow regime in Kabul that the state-run Soviet media had admitted its own soldiers were being killed.

The newspaper's special correspondent said he had talked with a soldier named

Nikolai Semkn in a visit to a Soviet unit in Afghanistan.

The correspondent, V. Snegirev, mentioned "disgusting, inhumane" attacks by fighters on Soviet agents.

The Soviet Union has never said how many men it currently has in Afghanistan although Western experts estimate it is more than 100,000.

There have been occasional requests for more information about the life of Soviet troops in Afghanistan in letters from the public printed in the state-run media.

## New Jordan daily out

AMMAN, Feb. 5 (R) — A new Arabic-language daily newspaper, *Sawt Al-Shaab* (voice of the people), went on sale in Jordan Saturday.

The newspaper, largely owned by the government, joins two privately-run Arabic dailies, *Al-Ra'i* (opinion) and *Al-Dustour* (the constitution). Jordan also has an English-language newspaper, *The Jordan Times*.

## Ali Nasser ends visit to Damascus

DAMASCUS, Feb. 5 (AP) — The president of South Yemen ended three days of extensive talks with Syrian President Hafez Assad Saturday in what appeared to be an attempt to unify the ranks of Arab states and the Palestine Liberation Organization.

South Yemeni leader Ali Nasser Mubammad had come to Damascus after visiting Algiers and Tripoli for talks with Algerian President Chadli Ben Jedid and Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi. He also talked with PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat in the South Yemeni capital of Aden before starting his tour.

## Mubarak's trans-Atlantic trip 'successful'

CAIRO, Feb. 5 (R) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak's tour of the United States, Canada, Britain and France is viewed here as a success and officials said it had given momentum to Middle East peace efforts.

The president's talks in Washington, Ottawa, London and Paris gathered support for the Egyptian view that time was running short for settling the Palestinian problem and securing withdrawal of foreign forces from Lebanon, they said.

In Washington, Mubarak and President Reagan agreed on the need for progress toward a comprehensive Middle East settlement including withdrawal from Lebanon.

But the two leaders apparently differed on how far the U.S. should go on the thorny issue of creating a Palestinian state in the Israeli-occupied territories.

U.S. officials said President Reagan's plan for Palestinian self-rule on the West Bank and Gaza in association with Jordan was a fair deal for the Palestinians.

But Mubarak said in Washington: "The

## Keep off Syria, Israel told

BEIRUT, Feb. 5 (AP) — A visiting Soviet official warned Israel against attacking Syria because this would lead to "very serious consequences."

Karen Brutens, deputy chairman of the Soviet central committee's international department, affirmed that Moscow supported Syria "in the face of American and Israeli aggression." He spoke during a news conference Friday in Beirut where he has been meeting nationalist Lebanese leaders.

His warning to Israel came one day after an unidentified Syrian official issued a statement that Israel "would be held fully responsible for any aggression against Syria. The statement was carried by the official Syrian news agency Sana.

Syrian newspapers repeatedly warned that

Israel was preparing to attack Syria following reports last month that Damascus had acquired new Soviet-made SAM-5 missiles to improve its air defense system.

"The Syrian government cautions Arab and international opinion against the dangers of Israeli threats and preparations to launch an aggression against Syria and warns that it will take all decisive measures to retaliate against such aggression," newspapers quoted the Syrian official as saying.

In Beirut, Brutens was quoted as saying: "We hope this (Israeli) campaign will be nothing more than a campaign. Israel and its backers should realize that now is not the time for such attacks... and any development at this time would have serious consequences."

## Kabul rescues 11 kidnapped Soviet aides

NEW DELHI, Feb. 5 (AP) — Afghan troops raided a resistance stronghold and rescued 11 Soviet civilians kidnapped a month earlier from Mazar-e-Sharif, northern Afghanistan. Four Soviets were killed in the fighting, and two others had been tortured to death earlier, news reports said Saturday.

The resistance base about 100 kilometers from the provincial capital was attacked Tuesday, the Press Trust of India reported from Kabul. The camp was located in a mountainous region of Balkh province, which borders the Soviet Union.

Survivors said they had been repeatedly beaten and starved since their abduction Jan. 2 from the Afghan city 50 kilometers south of the border, the news agency quoted witnesses as saying. It made no mention of any troop or resistance casualties.

Western diplomatic reports of the kidnapping first said the Soviet advisers were seized in the middle of the day from the main shopping bazaar in Mazar-e-Sharif, and that two women were among those taken.

A later account said the Soviets had been taken off a bus halted by the anti-government forces just outside the city. This account also said the two women were Afghan.

An Afghan freedom fighter who crossed over into neighboring Pakistan later said one of the Soviets had been badly wounded at the time of his capture, and was executed when he no longer could walk. He said the Soviet were mostly electrical workers from a Soviet-built grain silo in Mazar-e-Sharif and were being held in the Charkent mountains about 48 kilometers southwest of the city.

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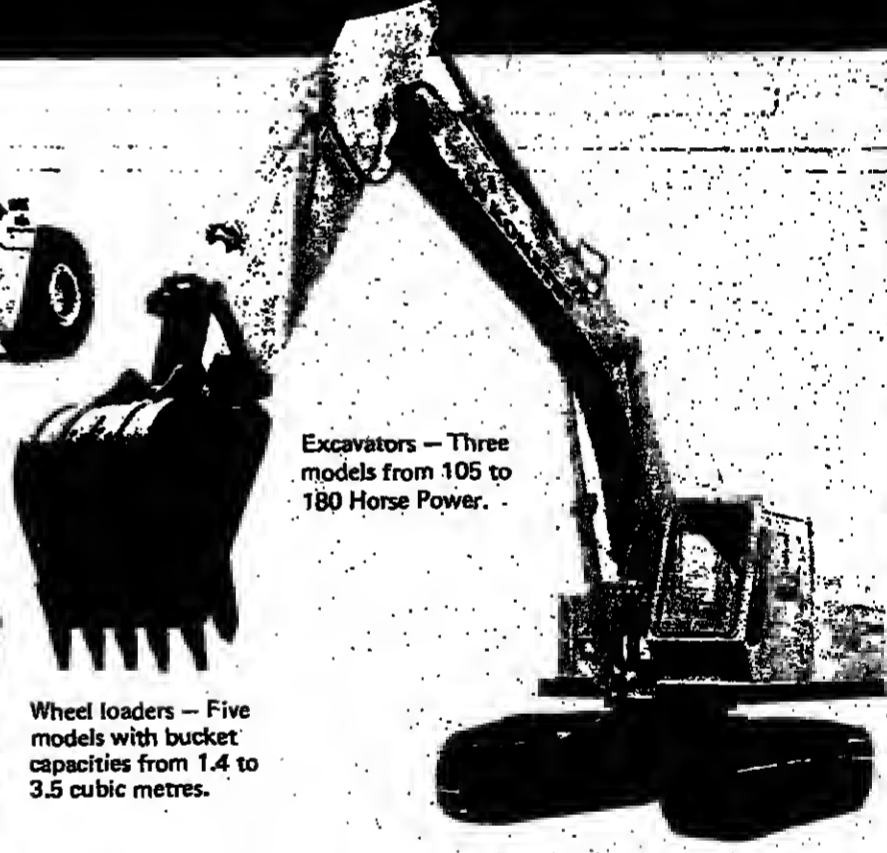
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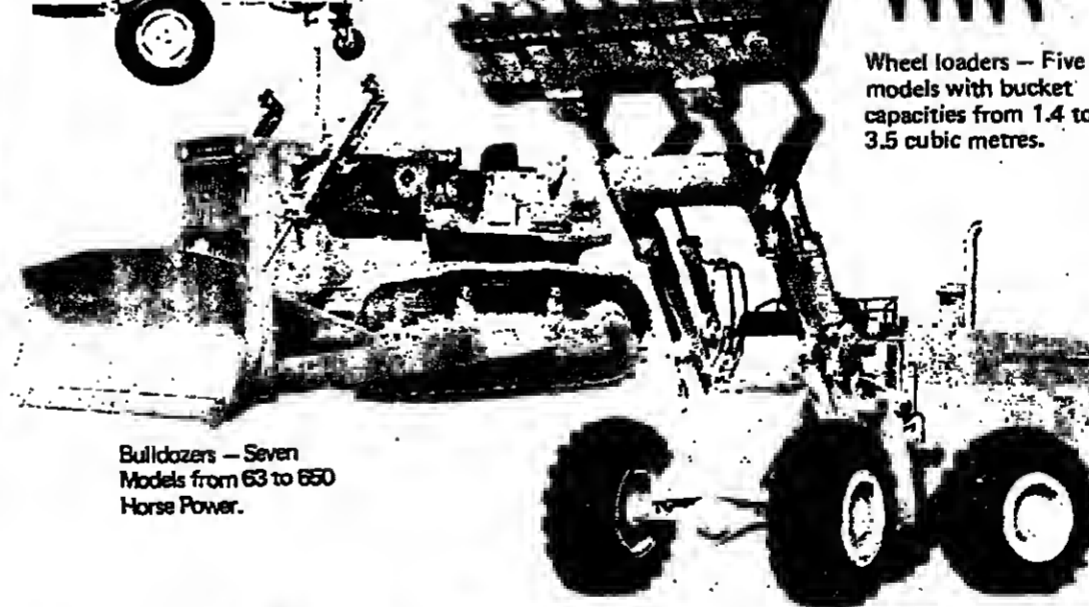
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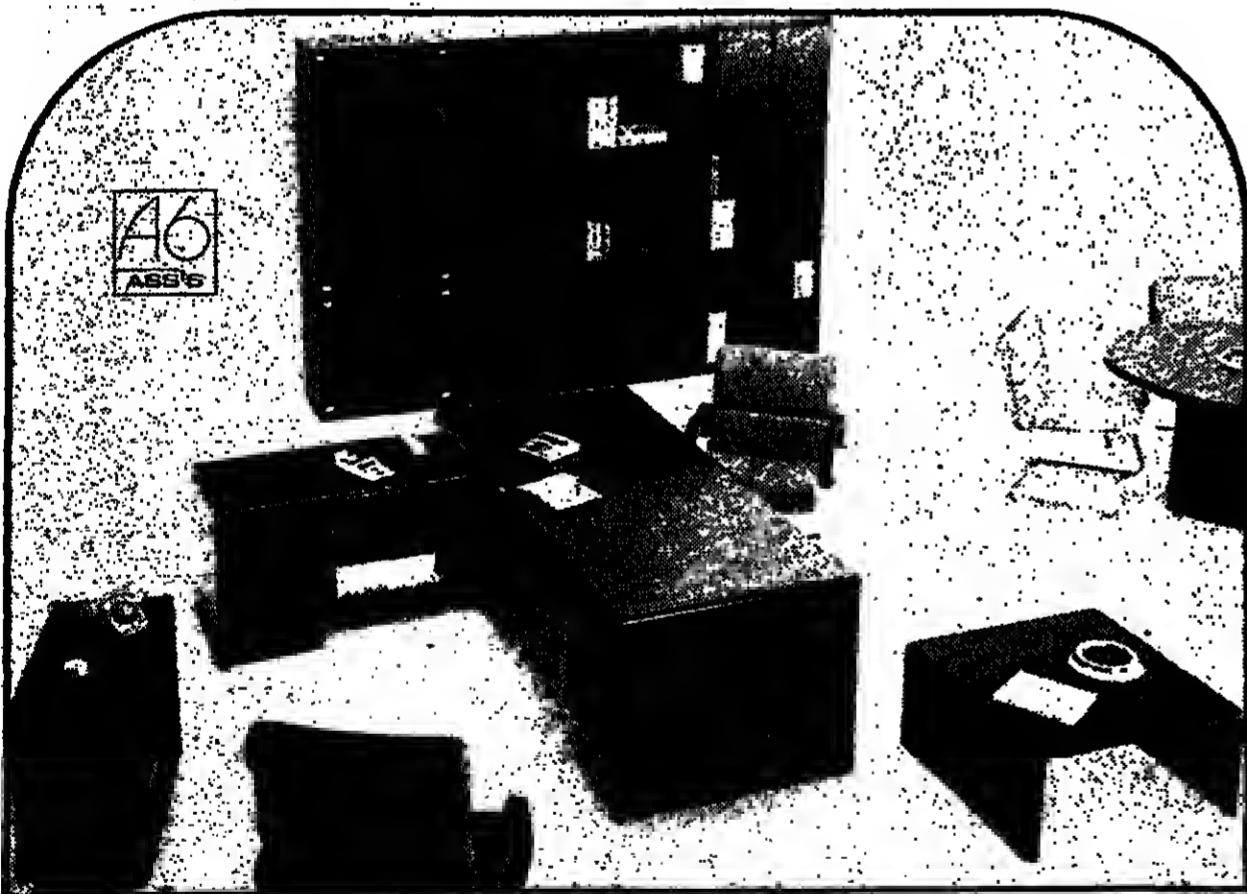
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## In black-ruled states

## Cuellar assails S. African sabotage

MAPUTO, Feb. 5 (Agencies) — United Nations Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar has denounced South African-backed attacks on neighboring black-ruled states, saying "these acts must stop".

Cuellar was speaking at an official reception in Maputo Thursday night following a meeting with President Samora Machel and other Mozambican leaders. Mozambique is the secretary-general's third stop on a tour of southern Africa intended to review progress toward a settlement on Namibia, which is administered by Pretoria in defiance of the United Nations.

But Cuellar said at the opening of his talks here Thursday, that he had also come to "observe the situation in this part of the world, which we consider very serious, with a danger of spreading war."

## Miami judge acquitted in bribery case

MIAMI, Feb. 5 (R) — A jury has acquitted a U.S. judge on charges that he conspired to take a bribe and obstruct the course of justice.

Alcee Hastings, 46, was the first district court judge to face trial for crimes alleged to have been committed while on the bench. "I feel vindicated. It was a tremendous victory," he told well-wishers on the courthouse steps Friday. "No other human being, dead or alive, has survived this particular ordeal."

Judge Hastings, the only black federal judge in South Florida, was accused of conspiring with William Borders, a Washington lawyer, to take a \$150,000 bribe from two brothers convicted in his Miami courtroom in 1980 for taking funds from a union pension scheme. He voluntarily stopped hearing cases when news that he was being investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation leaked out.

Borders, who was tried and convicted last year, took \$25,000 from an undercover agent posing as a racketeer, and was about to collect another \$125,000 when he was arrested by the FBI in Washington in October, 1981.

The judge signed an order releasing \$845,000 to the Romanos the day after Borders received the \$25,000.

The action was legal, in accordance with a superior court ruling, but the prosecution alleged Judge Hastings withheld his signature until Borders had struck a deal with the man he thought was Frank Romano.

## Chinese poet passes away

PEKING, Feb. 5 (AP) — Poet Xiao San (Emi Siao), a long-time leader of Chinese cultural organizations, died Tuesday of pulmonary heart disease, the official Xinhua news agency reported. He was 86.

Xinhua said Xiao's works helped promote the development of China's modern literature and poetry, and have been translated into Russian, Bulgarian, English, German, French, Spanish, Japanese, Czech and other languages. Xiao, a member of the Communist Party since 1922, was persecuted by leftist radicals in the "Cultural Revolution" decade of purges and already was 80 when he was rehabilitated in 1976, it said.

He continued to write memoirs and poems with enthusiasm and in 1982 donated the royalties from *Selected Poems of Xiao San* to flood victims in southwest China's Sichuan province, Xinhua added. Xiao visited many countries on behalf of the Chinese Writers Association and was a permanent member of the council of the China pen center of the International Pen, it said.

## Karen Carpenter, noted singer, dead

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 5 (R) — Karen Carpenter, of the Carpenters brother-and-sister singing duo, died Friday after being treated for the slimmers' disease anorexia nervosa, her manager said.

The agent, Derry Weintraub, said Friday night she had been treated for the illness, caused by failure to eat, in New York during the past 18 months. "But I believe she had been cured," he said.

Los Angeles coroners' officials said 32-year-old Miss Carpenter who was 1.6 meters tall, weighed 48 kg when she died. Anorexia nervosa became known as the star's disease when a number of actresses, intent on slimming, were treated for the illness.

A two-hour post-mortem on Miss Carpenter found no immediate cause of death and there would be further laboratory tests, a coroner's office spokesman said. Officials at Downey Memorial Hospital, in Los Angeles, where Miss Carpenter was taken after being found unconscious at her parents' home, said she died after a heart attack.

Miss Carpenter's singing partner, her elder brother Richard, and her mother were with her at the hospital when she died half an hour after being admitted. Her mother, Agnes, had found her unconscious in a walk-in closet wardrobe in her bedroom in their home.

## Cubans rap killing of Peru journalists

MEXICO CITY, Feb. 5 (AP) — The Journalists' Union of Cuba has condemned the slaying of eight journalists in Peru, the official Cuban news agency Prensa Latina reported.

The dispatch, monitored here, said a statement issued Thursday in Havana calls the slayings "without precedent in the history of journalism in Peru, constituting a tragedy related to the difficult conditions in which our colleagues must carry out their work on this continent."

Prensa Latina also said that a letter sent to the College of Peruvian Journalists states that the slayings have moved and filled with indignation Latin American and worldwide public opinion. "Cuban journalists condemn energetically this brutal crime and we join with our Peruvian colleagues, to whom we send our brotherly condolences."

In his evening speech, he said it was "deplorable" that Mozambique and its neighbors "suffer from hostile acts designed to disrupt their communications and throw their economies out of gear."

Four southern African states — Angola, Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Lesotho — have been targets for military attacks and sabotage by groups generally believed to have South African support in various degrees.

Speaking about the situation in South Africa itself, the secretary-general said that "there is no place for racial doctrines such as apartheid" in the world today.

At Thursday's talks, President Machel welcomed the secretary-general's tour of southern Africa as a move that could "infuse blood and fresh oxygen" to the United Nations. Machel said the two main problems in the region were South Africa's refusal to withdraw from Namibia and its white minority government's role as an "aggressive and destabilizing force" toward neighboring countries.

Cuellar has so far on his tour also visited Angola and Zambia. After Mozambique, he is to go to Tanzania, Zimbabwe, Kenya and Uganda.

Meanwhile, in Cape Town, South African opposition leader Frederic Van Zyl Slabbert told parliament Friday all attempts at regional reform would be useless if the government pushed Southern Africa into war.

Winding up a five-day no-confidence debate, Dr. Slabbert called for the resignation of Defense Minister Magnus Malan over a statement Friday that South Africa might be forced to support rebel black movements in Angola and Mozambique. "This is a very dangerous policy for South Africa," the Progressive Federal Party (PFP) leader said.

Dr. Slabbert suggested Gen. Malan should go back to the defense force, which he headed before joining the cabinet. "We cannot have a minister who makes such irresponsible statements." The debate, the traditional start of a new session, ended with the defeat of the opposition motion by 122 votes to 26.

On several occasions during Slabbert's attack on the government's image in Southern Africa, Prime Minister P.W. Botha called out: "Moscow will thank you for this speech."

Dr. Slabbert said that charges that South Africa was destabilizing the region did not come from Moscow alone, but from the United States as well. He said Gen. Malan had stated that, where necessary, support would be given to such resistance movements as the MNR in Mozambique and UNITA in Angola if these countries continued to be used as bases for guerrilla activity against South Africa.

## Greek Cypriots to elect president Feb. 13

NICOSIA, Feb. 5 (AFP) — Eight days from now, some 330,000 Greek Cypriots, about half the population of the island, will go to the polls to elect a new president of the republic for a five-year term.

The elections Feb. 13 will be the second real such poll since the island's independence from Britain in 1960, for since the first elections which brought Archbishop Makarios to power, it can hardly be said there has been effectively any electoral fight.

Until his death in 1977, the archbishop stood unopposed, and the present incumbent, Spyros Kyprianou, was elected in the absence of another candidate. But this time there are three candidates in the running: President Kyprianou, 50, supported by his own Democratic Party and the powerful Akel Communist Party, Glafos Clerides, 63, president of the Democratic Rally supported by the right, and Vassos Lyssarides, 62, of the Edek Socialist Party.

The issues central to their electoral campaign are Turkey's occupation of a third of the island since 1974, the role of the Greek government in finding a solution to the problem, and the state of the island's economy.

Kyprianou's own party gained 19 percent of the votes in the last general election in 1981, and the Akel Communist Party won 33 percent. Last April, the two parties worked out a "minimum program" of cooperation, which has been strongly denounced by the opposition parties as well as the Greek government.

Kyprianou defends the alliance, maintaining that it does not risk dragging the country toward communism as his detractors claim. He says the two parties decided to sink their ideological differences simply in the interests of the island and its people, and accuses his adversaries of making political mileage out of what he says is merely a "misunderstanding" between him and the Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu.

An opinion poll in November predicted he would be returned with 54 percent of the vote, which corresponds almost exactly with the performance of his Democratic and the Communist parties in the general elections in 1981. But the influence of the electoral campaign cannot be assessed. His strongest opponent is Clerides, who has been speaker of the Cypriot House of Representatives and the Greek Cypriot negotiator at inter-community talks aimed at resolving Cyprus's problem.

The Democratic rally of Clerides won 32 percent of the votes at the 1981 general election and has 12 representatives in the house, the same number as the Communists. His electoral platform is one of "real change." He accuses Kyprianou of political opportunism in sacrificing the close support of Greece for the support of the Communist Party, and promises to restore a harmonious relationship with Greece if elected.

He also blames the president for several scandals, in particular the construction costs of a new motorway between Nicosia and

Limassol which have turned out double the original estimate.

The third candidate, Dr. Lyssarides, says he is standing out of "national necessity". He believes the present government policy has failed and negotiations to solve the island's problem have reached an impasse.

The key to the solution of the island's problems is its relationship with Greece, he says, which is far from harmonious. He does not believe Clerides offers a genuine alternative because until recently, he charges, the policies of the Democratic Rally coincided with those of the Communist Party.

## 14 Filipino miners killed in explosion

MANILA, Feb. 5 (AFP) — Fourteen miners were killed in a central Philippines mine tunnel blast this week, touched off by a cigarette according to witness accounts, the Philippine News Agency (PNA) reported Saturday.

Two of the miners, one of whom reportedly lit a cigarette some 70 meters underground, were killed instantly in the accident at the San Antonio coal mines on Cebu Island, some 500 kms south of here. Seventeen miners were taken to hospital where two died of second-degree burns the next day and ten succumbed Friday night, PNA said. Thirteen men were still in local hospitals.

The tragedy occurred just as the miners were climbing up an exit tunnel at the end of their shift, PNA said.

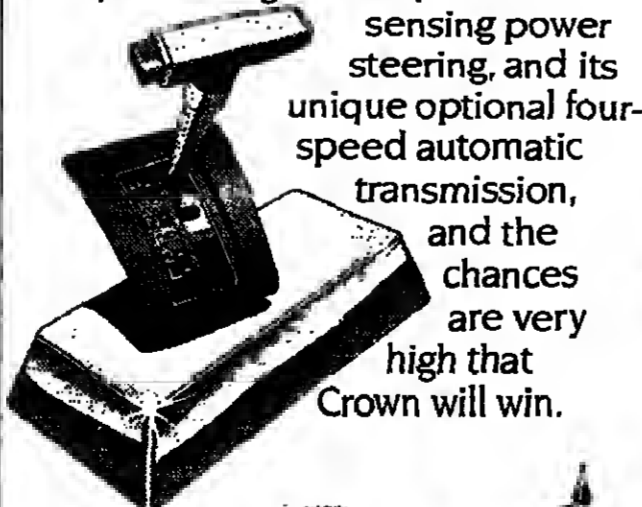
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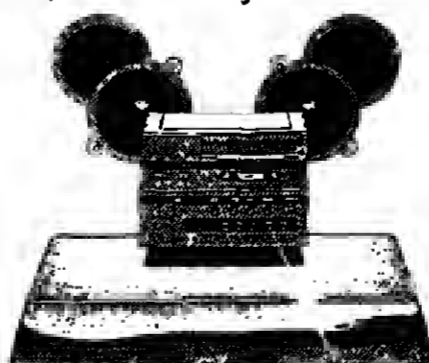
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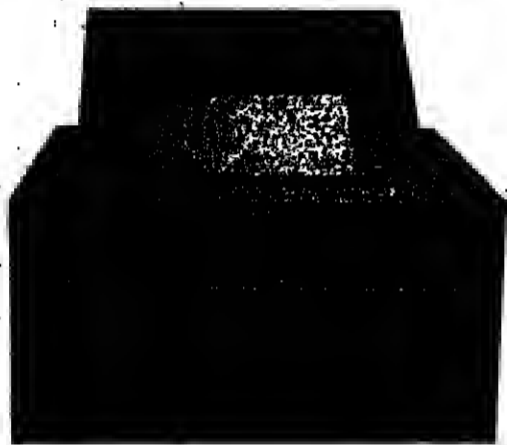
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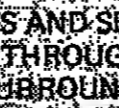
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## SALEH'S VISIT

The current visit of President Ali Abdullah Saleh of North Yemen to the Kingdom highlights the close relations between the two neighboring countries which have become of special importance to both. It also comes after the recent earthquake in Yemen which spelt out a major human and economic disaster and left the country with a vast financial problem.

Yemen is a large but undeveloped country with few natural and mineral resources to speak of. But it has an agricultural base which could be enlarged if the government can find the resources to do so. With exports almost nil, the country has to depend heavily on the remittances of its labor force abroad, specially in the Kingdom and to some extent in the Gulf. There are many also in the United States, some in Britain and a few in Africa.

These remittances are practically the only income that the Central Bank gets from abroad apart from foreign economic assistance, the bulk of which emanates from the Kingdom. The Kingdom ekes out the chronic budgetary deficit in Sanaa to the tune of \$100 million a year in addition to financing a large program of aid which includes building schools, fully equipped and staffed hospitals, highways linking cities across difficult terrain, drilling wells and providing teachers from other Arab countries to work in Yemen.

Despite all this, the economic situation in the country is disturbing as the government desperately looks for foreign exchange to pay for its imports of almost everything — from foodstuffs to cars and oil. The latter is taking a heavy toll and people are pinning their hopes on the ongoing exploration. There are no indications of the presence of oil in commercial quantities but the fact that the search goes on maintains a level of national assurance that is good in itself in these trying times.

Thus falling oil prices may be useful to Yemen in the short term but if they keep falling fast and steeply they may not be good news in the long term as the cost of exploration and exploitation may become suddenly too prohibitive. The country's best bet, therefore, lies in intensifying the development of that ever lasting resource — agriculture and small industries to reduce the perennial and almost total dependence on imports.

## Saudi Arabian press review

King Fahd's contribution to Arab and Islamic solidarity as well as his concern for the welfare of the people of the Kingdom, some member states' disruptive tactics at OPEC meetings and the forthcoming meeting of the Palestine National Council figured in the editorials of Saudi Arabian newspapers Saturday.

Commenting on King Fahd's meetings with citizens in towns and villages of the Western Provinces, *Al-Jazirah* said such meetings had reflected the strong ties between the people and their leader, who has spared no effort to realize their aspirations.

Fahd's moves inside and outside the country are aimed at establishing Arab and Islamic solidarity and creating "a strong Arab nation that can counter Zionist and superpower challenges and designs," it said.

*Al-Riyadh* said the King's repeated meetings with his people "is a good evidence of the strong cohesion between the citizens and their leaders for the benefit of the country and the Arab and Muslim world."

Sincere feelings between the people and their leaders have enabled the Kingdom to enjoy peace, stability and progress and occupy its deserved place at Arab, Islamic and international levels, it

added. "Saudi Arabia with its Islamic brotherhood traditions, based on the divine faith has become an example to all Arab and Muslim nations to realize prosperity, gain strength and recover the usurped Arab and Muslim rights," the paper said.

*Al-Yom* stressed that OPEC's Arab Gulf member states were the first to make sacrifices to maintain and safeguard the organization's unity. The paper said Saudi Arabia had always been keen on protecting the interests of both oil producing and consuming countries and preserve OPEC's positive role.

*Okaz* urged Palestinian leaders to unify their ranks to foil Zionist expansionist designs aiming at fomenting sedition not only among the Palestinians but also among Arab and Islamic countries.

Referring to the forthcoming Palestine National Council (PNC) meeting scheduled in Algeria later this month, the paper said escalating inter-Palestinian disputes "is aimed at preventing the council from taking decisive resolutions in the face of extremism which serves nobody but the Zionists who are out to hit at Arab, Palestinian and Islamic solidarity." (SPA)

## Stroessner sure of new mandate in Paraguay

By Jane Klima

ASUNCION — Latin America's longest-serving strong man, Paraguayan President Alfredo Stroessner, is certain to be elected to a new five-year term in Sunday's general elections, and the only question is the size of his majority.

Political sources say there is little doubt that the 70-year-old general would easily win the poll after almost 29 years in power and might even increase his 1978 majority of 89 percent to 94 percent of the vote. The president's supporters say he will be elected on his popularity but Western diplomats are inclined to attribute his certain victory to the tight hold his Colorado Party has on every state institution and the electoral machinery.

The electorate, roughly one-third of this sub-tropical South American Republic's three million population, will also be voting for 60 deputies and 30 senators. The ruling party has a two-thirds majority in the chamber of deputies and the senate. The remaining seats are held by members of the Liberal Party and its offshoot, the Radical Liberal Party, who between them presented the only opposition in the last elections.

The Colorado Party maintains that total freedom of expression and respect for human rights exists in the country along with the freedom to undertake political and trade union activities.

But government opponents say opposition is effectively neutralized by a 20-year-old state of siege. And the two opposition candidates in the presidential poll, deputy Fulvio Hugo Celauro for the Liberals and Dr. Enzo Doldan from the Radical Liberal Party, have repeatedly accused the ruling party of blocking their access to supporters.

Four other minority opposition parties, united in a left-of-center "National Accord" are boycotting the poll. All of them — the authentic Radical Liberal Party (PLRA), the Christian Democrats, the Revolutionary Febrerista Party and the Popular Colorado Movement, a rebel faction of the ruling party — say the conditions for democratic elections do not yet exist in Paraguay.

But Paraguay's ambassador to Buenos Aires, Antonio Massulli Fuster, told Reuters that these parties were not participating only because they did not have the 10,000 members which the constitution lays down as a condition for putting forward presidential candidates.

President Stroessner has been re-elected five times since taking power in May 1954 at the head of a military coup.

His rule has brought a period of unaccustomed stability to a country which in the preceding 22 years had had no less than 27 presidents. Paraguay is also one of the few countries in Latin America where there is no indigenous guerrilla movement.

A six-foot, fair-haired career soldier before becoming president, Gen. Stroessner initially gained the reputation of being an "iron-handed" leader. Under the pressure from Western governments, the ruling party has slackened its tight grip on society and the jails are reported to be almost empty of the several hundred political prisoners they contained several years ago.

But many government opponents, who have gone into voluntary or forced exile, are among 25 percent of the Paraguayan population living abroad. The most recent political figure to be deported was Domingo Laino, vice president of the PLRA. He was jailed last December on the eve of the publication of his book on late Nicaraguan dictator Anastasio Somoza who was assassinated in the suburbs of Asuncion in September 1980.

Disident sources here said Laino and several other prominent opposition politicians now in Argentina had confirmed their intention of trying to enter Paraguay on election day. But Interior Minister Sabino Montano told a news conference Wednesday that any attempt to cross into Paraguay illegally with the aim of disturbing peace and order would be repressed.

The opposition, apparently undaunted by the odds against it, has been campaigning hard on a platform of restoring the recession-hit economy to its former health. After several years of growth rates of 10 percent and above, expansion slowed in 1981 to 8.5 percent and unofficial estimates suggest the economy could even have shrunk last year. At seven percent, Paraguay's inflation rate is the lowest in Latin America, but the world economic recession has cut demand for the landlocked republic's principal exports of cotton fiber, soya, timber and vegetable oils.

Another key factor is the Itaipu Project under which Paraguay and Brazil jointly built the world's largest hydro-electric dam complex on the Parana River which separates the two countries. The complex opened last year. Apart from providing business and employment, Itaipu also brought millions of dollars into the economy. But the flow dried up as the dam neared completion.

A joint project with Argentina to build a dam at Yacyreta on Paraguay's southern border has been dogged by disputes over financing and the share-out of profits and construction work.

Opposition parties are little more than window-dressing for the system, but the recession and the setback in the Yacyreta project might change Paraguay's apparent conformity with the status quo.

But the Colorado Party and the armed forces are as much in control as ever. Rumors that the president was seriously ill and had possibly suffered a stroke, fueled by the fact that he usually declines to shake hands with his right hand, subsided when his candidacy for another term was officially announced last September. (R)

## Kohl facing voters with serious image problem

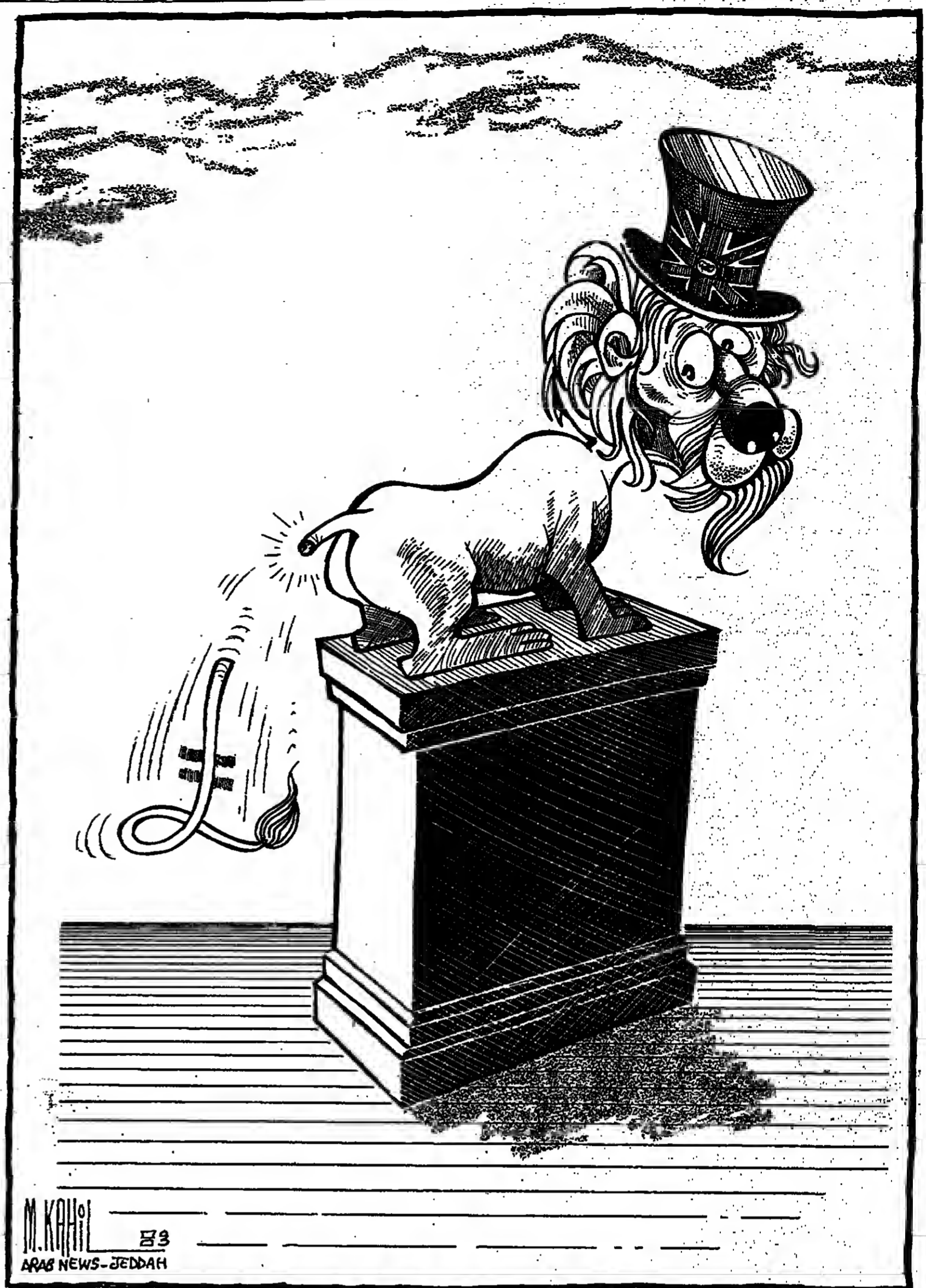
By Paul Radford

BONN — Helmut Kohl, West Germany's first conservative chancellor in 13 years, has an image problem and still has to overcome widespread doubts about his personal capabilities as the March 6 general election approaches.

His difficulties were illustrated by what happened a few days ago when he addressed a crowd of 3,000 female supporters at Wolfsburg, home of the Volkswagen car firm. As Kohl entered the packed hall to deliver his campaign speech a few people started up a chant of "Helmut, Helmut". But others in the gathering uttered nervously as if such a demonstration of hero worship was somehow inappropriate and the chant faded away almost as soon as it began.

It is not that the reception of the crowd at Wolfsburg was unenthusiastic. They applauded him all the way to the podium while Kohl responded with nervous waves and a self-conscious champion's salute.

Yet the impression remained that something was being held back and that the cheers were for the fact



## U.N. quietly working for Afghan peace deal

By Ian Moore

ISLAMABAD — The special United Nations envoy on Afghanistan, Diego Cordovez, is keen on giving the impression that his current round of visits to Tehran, Islamabad and Kabul is making tangible, if gradual, progress toward a political solution of the Afghan problem. He says he is encouraged by widening support for the U.N. initiative and is now working on "the substance of things."

The nature of the substance remains strictly confidential, and some observers believe the silence is an indication that the talks are still bogged down in procedural questions. Diplomatic sources say they are unaware of anything really positive happening, while Cordovez himself acknowledges that it will be a long and complex road to a comprehensive settlement.

Nevertheless, U.N. sources in Islamabad maintain the outline of a deal is on the distant horizon. According to these sources, the central thrust of the present talks is to find a way of coordinating the main issues on the agreed agenda — namely, the return of the refugees, the withdrawal of foreign troops and guarantees of non-interference in Afghanistan.

The public positions of the governments concerned appear to offer little basis for optimism. Kabul and Moscow continue to insist that the matter should be handled through bilateral negotiations, while Pakistan and Iran are still refusing to speak to Babrak Karmal's government, although the Pakistan government has engaged in indirect talks using

the U.N. as an intermediary.

More fundamentally perhaps, the Communists continue to see the first priority in any settlement as an end of "foreign interference" in the shape of Western support for the guerrillas based in Pakistan. For Pakistan and Iran, a Russian commitment to withdraw must come first, and they say the resistance must be brought in to the talks.

Apparently the U.N. does not regard these entrenched positions as a stalemate. Cordovez is working on the assumption that the motivation for a settlement is strong enough to create some flexibility. The U.N. sources say he is on the verge of a breakthrough in the form of a consensus on the principle that the refugees themselves must be consulted as part of the process. U.N. thinking is that as long as the term is "refugees" and not "Mujahideen" the Communists might be prepared to go along with this.

The first concrete step would be to get agreement on how to consult the refugees. Should a referendum be used, and how would it be monitored? After that, there would be negotiations on the questions to be put to the refugees to find out if they would be prepared to return home under certain guaranteed conditions. Assuming the referendum came out in favor of the terms — and the U.N. would not want to risk an overwhelming rejection — the Soviet Union would then be expected to produce a timetable for withdrawing its troops. A program for the refugees' return would be worked out, providing for a transitional period with some form of monitoring.

Kabul and Moscow would certainly require that

the training camps of the freedom fighters be shut down and border violations halted. It is also clear that, for the Soviet Union, the process that began with the Afghan Communist revolution of 1978 is irreversible. If a settlement really is on the cards, it would seem to imply that Afghanistan should remain firmly within the Soviet sphere of influence. President Zia of Pakistan has said he accepts that the Soviet Union has a right to demand, on security grounds, that future Afghan governments are not hostile to Moscow.

It remains to be seen whether the United States would exert its influence to prevent such a development. And it is hard to see how the U.N. could draw in backing from the Muslim freedom fighters who provide political leadership for the Afghan resistance. (LOS)



Today is Sunday, Feb. 6, the 37th day of 1983. There are 328 days left in the year.

Highlights in history on this date:

1577 — Henry of Navarre is recognized as head of Huguenot Party in France.

1626 — Peace of La Rochelle is signed between Huguenot rebels and French crown.

1701 — War of Spanish succession begins. Philip of Anjou enters Madrid as King Philip V of Spain while French troops also occupy southern Spanish Netherlands.

1715 — Peace of Utrecht ends war between Spain and Portugal.

1778 — Britain declares war on France.

1819 — East India Company, represented by Stamford Raffles, establishes settlement in Singapore.

1899 — Treaty of Paris is ratified, whereby Spain cedes to the United States Cuba, Puerto Rico, Guam and the Philippines for \$20 million.

1934 — Civil riots break out in Paris.

1962 — Fighting breaks out in Algeria between French Army and right-wing French group known as the Secret Army Organization.

1963 — United States places shipping restrictions on Cuba.

1971 — U.S. Apollo 14 astronauts prepare for return to earth after 33-hour stay on the moon.

1972 — More than 15,000 Roman Catholics in Northern Ireland demonstrate against government and the British in defiance of ban on marches.

Thought for today:

Let the people know the truth and the country is safe — Abraham Lincoln, U.S. president (1809-1865).

مكة المكرمة

# Sinbad the sailor -- fact or fiction?

With this issue we begin a series of articles relating to the Arab world written by Peter Boxhall who has spent nearly all his adult life in the region. An Arabist, he has visited all Arab countries and has been successively a regular officer in the British and Arab armies and an overseas director of the Save the Children Fund (in the Yemen Arab Republic). A fellow of the Royal Geographical Society, London, Boxhall now lives in Cyprus. His articles will appear in the Sunday editions of Arab News.

By Peter Boxhall

About two years ago, at the time that Tim Severin and his crew were setting sail in a replica of an 8th-century 'boom', with the intention of sailing from Sur in Oman to Canton in China to recreate the journey supposedly made by the legendary Sinbad, I was working as an oil company administrator high upon the 20th century, blue glass-windowed offices of the Gulf Center at Al-Khobar. From this vantage point, I could see, immediately below, the busy dhow yard and to the south a regular stream of motorized, wooden Arabian vessels plying across to Bahrain and up and down the Gulf.

For years past, I had spent weeks, sometimes a month or two, on their lateen sailed predecessors, in the Red Sea, along the Arabian coast, in the Gulf, to the islands of Cameroon, Perim, Abd al Kuri, Socotra, Kuria Muria, Masirah...

Now, as was obvious from the scene below, and as I knew well from personal experience, the Arabian ships of sail had given way to their motorized successors. No more, so it seemed, could I expect to hear the rhythmic creaking of the hard planks, the flutter of a breeze in the triangular-shaped, lateen sails, the stamp of calloused feet on the wooden deck as the salt-encrusted Arab sailors hoisted aloft the heavy sheets and chanted: "Allah, Allah, fill this great sail..."

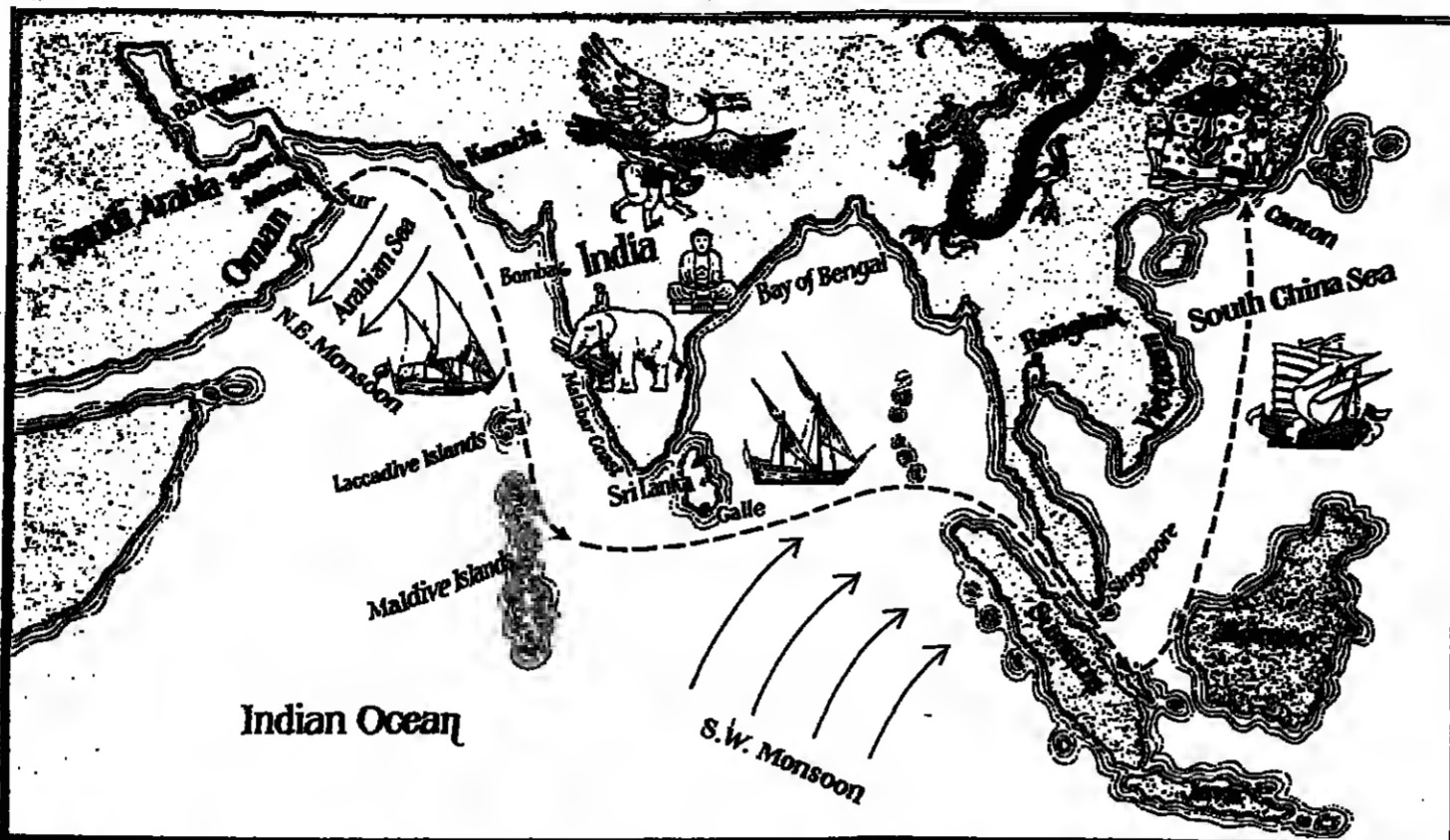
Often, though, in those earlier days, these hardy, devout Arab seafarers had been becalmed in their long sea journeys: inactive, with nothing to do but dream. So they dreamed. And so, inactive in a sense like them, could I; and my recurring dream, a mere fantasy though it seemed to be, was to sail away, as Sinbad is said to have done, from the Arabian shores to the far-distant South China seas...

Tim Severin also had this dream and, almost unbelievably, was able to translate it into the reality of an epic re-enactment, a retracing of that long-neglected Arab sailing trade route to China. The full account of his story has recently been published. It is called *The Sinbad Voyage*.

Tim Severin has indeed a remarkable story to tell, and he is well qualified to tell it. First, because he is an outstanding long-distance traveler. (he has possibly traveled even further than the 75,000 miles credited to Marco Polo), about whom he wrote his first book, while still an undergraduate at Oxford University, called *Tracking Marco Polo, Explorers of the Mississippi* then followed: a journey by canoe along this mighty, meandering river. Then came *The Brendan Voyage*; the record of a sea journey across the Atlantic to show that Irish monks could have been the first Europeans to reach North America, as medieval legend suggests.

*The Brendan Voyage* was a great success but, like all creative men, Severin now had to think of further paths of endeavor to pursue or, most likely, sea lanes along which to travel. Sometime now the mythical name of Sinbad intruded into his mind, and with it the latter's alleged journeying by sea from Arabia to the coast of South China.

A competent researcher, Severin began to pore over ancient trading documents, maps, shipwrights' plans, museum exhibits. His research then took him to Oman, where he traveled up and down the coastline, painstakingly measuring and sketching the rotting rib-cages of long-abandoned dhows, half buried in the sand. The sheer immensity of putting into practice such a project must, at this stage, have seemed daunting, perhaps impossible... Yet the now familiar figure of this lone stranger, ostensibly trying to pursue an apparently unrealizable dream of the past, came to the attention of Sultan Qabus, who sent an unexpected invitation to Severin to reconstruct an 8th century 'boom' and sail it to Cathay in the wake of Sinbad. For was not



SINBAD'S ROUTE: This map shows the route from Oman to China taken by Sinbad and faithfully followed by Tim Severin. Below, left: A wooden ship of "plank and twine" at the time of Harun Al Rashid. Right: Sinbad with the old man perched on his neck. As the story goes, it took all of Sinbad's ingenuity to get rid of the fellow.



Sinbad, if he did exist, not indeed a son of Oman?

Based on early Arab and Persian sketches, as well as his own, and on written descriptions of 9th century deep-sea trading vessels, Severin and his shipwrights designed a coir-sewn wooden ship, 87 feet long, 21 feet wide, and with a 6 feet draught, in a record 7 months. It took its name *Sinbad* from the Omani port, which had once been "the gateway to China, the store-house of the East, and set sail on Nov. 21 1980.

Tim Severin, then, is a dreamer with a historical perspective, who has the ability to translate the theory of travel into contemporary practice. But can the same be said of Sinbad?

*The Thousand and One Nights* edition of E.W. Lane, published in London in 1838, devotes 75 pages to Sinbad's improbable adventures. Relating the stories of his seven

sea voyages, this part-historical, part-legendary, record first informs us that Sinbad was a merchant adventurer, based at Baghdad. Setting forth from the port of Basrah on the Shatt Al Arah on each occasion, he is said to have traveled, in sequence, to India, to Borneo, to the "Island of Apes", (which may have been Sumatra), twice to Sumatra, which he mentions by name, and twice to Sri Lanka, (which in Sinbad's day was known to the Arabs as Serendeeb).

On many occasions he is shipwrecked on islands, (the names of which are conveniently omitted from his narrative, so that they cannot be identified with certainty), and it is on these islands that he meets, for example, a stable groom of the King al Miraj, who brings the king's mares to the island on the occasion of each full moon, so that they should attract the sea-horses; he sees a one-eyed fish, off-shore, 200 cubits long, another with the face of an owl, he tells of a bird called a "ruk", which feeds its young on elephants; and is confronted by an old man, on the river bank of another island, who has no bones in his legs, and who orders Sinbad to carry him across the swollen torrent.

Sinbad, we are also told, was born at Sohar in Oman, and lived in the 8th century, in the reign of the Caliph Harun al Rashid, and it is certainly possible that such a person existed and traded as a sometime merchant from Baghdad to the ports of China for, by the 8th century, the flow of precious commodities such as gold, ivory and gems from India, and silk, fine porcelain and tea from China, had made Baghdad the most important commercial port in the world. That Sinbad should have traveled from Basra to the South China seas, even in a ship of "plank and twine" is equally plausible for, by the 6th century AD, the Arabs had established a virtual monopoly of the sea trade with China: a 6,000-mile-long route, the longest commercial link in the

world and the maritime equivalent of the Silk Route, which ran overland, westward, from those same Chinese emporiums.

Yet so distorted are the other stories in *The Thousand and One Nights*, related as they first were in the 'souks' of the Arab Empire, then told and retold until the 13th century in the Indian, Arabian and North African ports and coffee houses, that I think that we must conclude that Sinbad's stories are in fact merely a composite version of the many wonderful seafaring tales known to, but only half-remembered by, his contemporaries in those far-off days of the Golden Age of Harun al Rashid.

Tim Severin, for his part, is content merely to assume that Sinbad might have existed; but in this assumption he is, perhaps, being tactful toward his Omani crew, all of whom are certain that he existed. However, Severin's journey of discovery, perhaps more accurately rediscovery, was not in fact undertaken primarily to prove or disprove Sinbad's credibility, but to bring to people's attention to the achievements of the early Arab seafarers in their distant voyages to China in wooden ships: a 6,000-mile journey completed without the benefit of motor, chart or navigational aids. Additionally, since he was reconstructing a 1,000-year-old voyage, which takes a sailing vessel some eight months to complete, he was tasked with a full scientific program, which included the measurement of sea currents, a count of whales and dugongs, and a study of the barnacles attaching themselves to the ship's wooden hull.

In the course of *Sohar's* passage, Tim Severin, his crew of Omani sailors and his Western scientists, like Sinbad before them, had to endure the hazards of the sea and life upon it. The main spar of the 'boom's' mast was broken off the coast of Sumatra; the ship's sails were torn to shreds in the South China seas; between So Lanka and Singa-

## Another Look

### Check on resolutions

By Robert Yoskum

"There are two types of New Year's resolutions: the public resolution, whose purpose is to deceive others, and the private resolution, which is intended to deceive oneself."

— Newsweek magazine

I wondered whether the *Newsweek* statement was true, and so decided to conduct a survey. Although it was not yet five weeks since New Year's Day, I wanted to find out how people were doing with their resolutions.

The first person I called, naturally, was the president of the United States. I say "naturally" because Reagan is notorious for his determination to hold a steady course, to avoid the sort of vacillation with which he charged President Carter.

It was with understandable reluctance, therefore, that the president admitted he had already broken one resolution.

"I'll bet I can guess," I said. "You're talking about your change of mind on the defense budget, right?"

"Right," Reagan replied, sounding disappointed.

"Well, it wasn't much of a cut," I said in an effort to cheer him up. "We will still be able to blow up every enemy many times over."

He just mumbled, so I continued: "Do you mind telling me what some of your other resolutions were for 1983, Mr. President?"

"Sure, I'll tell you one," he said.

"What's that?"

"I'm going to talk to the press less." Then he chuckled and hung up.

The next person on my list was Yuri Andropov, head of the Soviet Union. When the call went through I explained what my survey was about and asked Andropov whether he spoke English, explaining that there had been some debate over that subject in the U.S.

"Yes, a little."

"Good. My question is this: Did you make any New Year's resolutions, and if so..."

"Ve making no resolutions!" he exclaimed. "Is all ornery pipple's what rewolting from Copatilis! Ve doing nothing! Is you Copatilis jekel?"

"Do you mean 'jackal', as in 'running jackals and hyenas of predatory capitalism' or 'Jekyll' as in 'Jekyll and Mr. Hyde'?"

My question obviously exceeded his grasp of English, but I was finally able to

explain the nature of my survey and get an answer. That answer boiled down to this: There was no need for leaders of the U.S.S.R. to make New Year's resolutions because everything the regime had resolved to do had been done.

"Including Afghanistan?" I couldn't resist asking.

"Yes I mention," he replied, and hung up.

Next I called Margaret Thatcher, prime minister of Great Britain. She was surprisingly forthright.

"It's really embarrassing," she said, "but my first resolution was not to mention the victory over Argentina in the Falkland Islands again — or at least not for the first month or so in the new year."

"But why?" I asked. "The Falklands victory brought you from the pits of public opinion polls to the top! Your political prospects soared."

"Yes, yes," she said impatiently, "but I am a notoriously disciplined woman. And the truth is that those polls you mention are what got me hooked on the Falklands War. Like a helpless drug addict."

"But..."

"Just the other day," she continued, her usually controlled voice sounding strained, "I found myself down there. Down in the Falklands! Visiting the place! And I don't even remember packing! I'VE GOT TO GIVE THEM UP!"

Sensing an imminent breakdown, I swiftly changed the subject. "How's the pound sterling doing?" I asked.

It was a mistake. All I heard was a sob and a click.

Finally, I interviewed a humor columnist — a sensitive and shy man who chose not to be identified. He admitted that he had already violated one of his resolutions, which was to avoid making fun of political figures — and especially chiefs of state like President Reagan, Party Chief Andropov, and Prime Minister Thatcher — for the first quarter of the new year.

"Do you feel guilty?" I asked.

"Of course I feel guilty," he replied.

"And I can't afford to feel guilty."

"Why not?"

"Because if a humor columnist felt guilty about picking on people he'd have to take up another profession."

"But what else on God's earth would you be fit for?"

"Oh, well, uh...One could always...Er, I suppose that..."

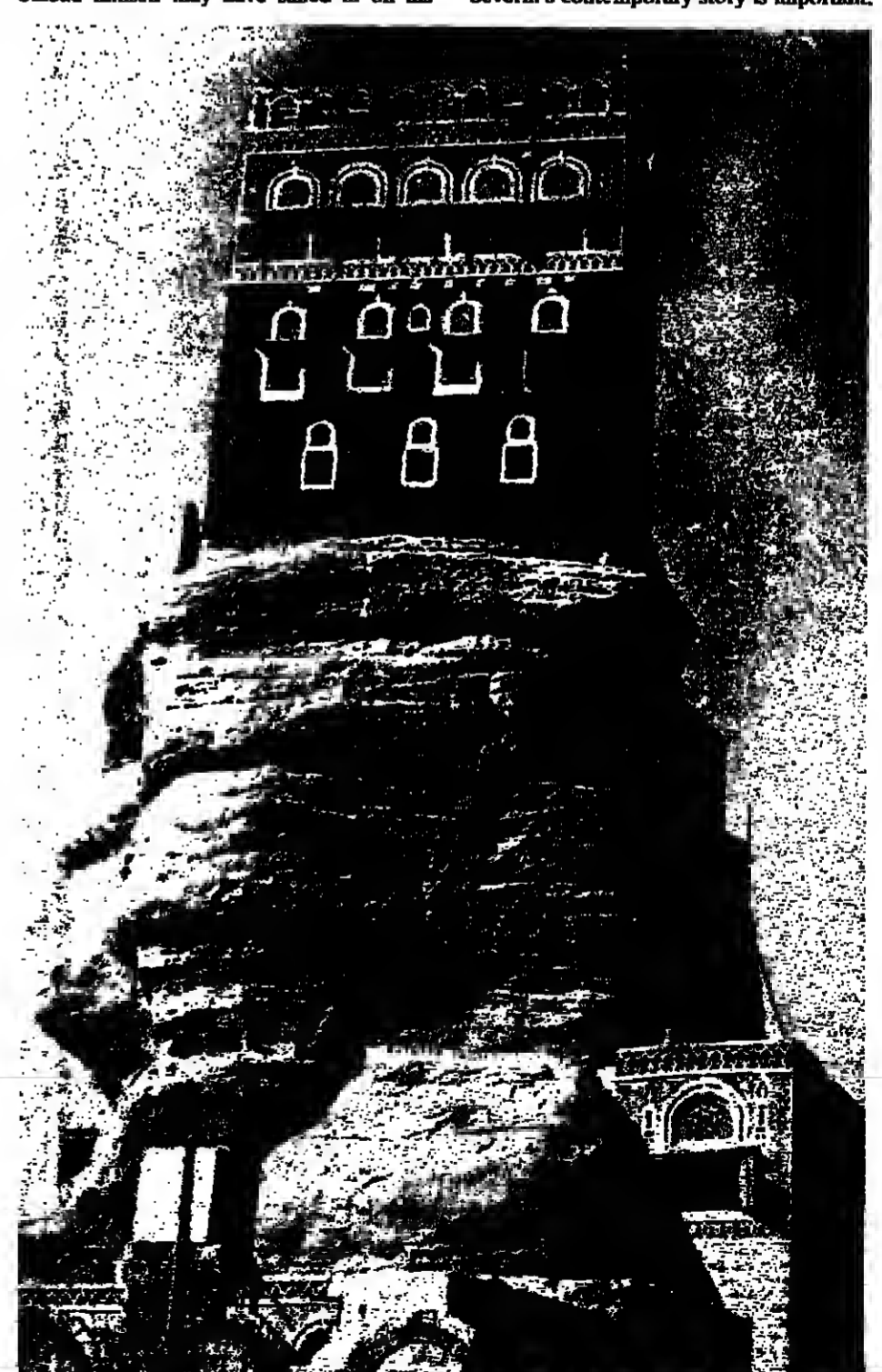
"Exactly! So from now on you'd better either keep your resolutions or dump your guilt."

pore the ship was becalmed for nearly a month, and, as an unwarranted reminder of their existence in the technological 20th century, *Sohar* and its crew were almost run down by a giant freighter off the Malaysian coast.

Severin does not therefore need to exaggerate, to embroider upon his epic, real-life adventures in his book. The extraordinary feat of constructing such a sizable wooden ship of "plank and twine," such a vessel as Sinbad himself may have sailed in on his

seven sea-going voyages, and the sailing of that ship to the far South China seas without propulsion or navigational aids, is a remarkable testimony, if not to the existence of Sinbad himself, to the story in which Sinbad has the principal role. Yet, more than that, this latter-day enactment of Sinbad's journeying is a necessary reminder of, and tribute to, Arab seamanship through the ages.

So, perhaps, after all, the Sinbad story, fact or fiction as it may be, is as unimportant as Severin's contemporary story is important.



QASR AL HAGAR: One of the most famous landmarks in North Yemen, Qasr Al Hagar (rock palace) was built by a former king as a weekend retreat. The palace situated a few miles outside the capital, Sanaa, is well maintained by the government as a national treasure and tourist attraction. Qasr Al Hagar is only one of the many beautiful structures of this kind in Yemen.



#### ANTI-TUBERCULOSIS DRUGS

By Peter J. Steincrohn M.D., F.A.C.P.

Dear Dr. Steincrohn: My son who is now seven has had a warm, close relationship with my father, 72, who lives with us. But a problem was overlooked for a long time. My father has had a constant cough for the past year. He brings up quite a bit of sputum. We haven't had him to a doctor until recently because we thought he had ordinary bronchitis. But, lo and behold, X-rays and sputum tests taken recently show he has tuberculosis. Fortunately, my son hasn't become infected. We have him under observation. My father's doctor says he can bring the tuberculosis under control by prescribing special medicines. He won't have to stay in bed for months like TB patients did in the past. I understand that some of these medicines are so strong that they may cause complications. Is this true? — Mrs. Q.

Dear Mrs. Q.: Fortunately, drug therapy for TB is quite effective. But, as you say, some of the medications may cause side-effects that must be guarded against. First, here are the names of some of the most beneficial medicines: isoniazid is probably the best single antituberculous drug. But when given to elderly patients, liver tests should be made monthly to be sure there are no liver complications such as hepatitis. Dosage must be adjusted.

Streptomycin is another effective medicine. But, if not carefully checked on, there may be kidney damage and trouble with hearing and balance. Two other drugs are ethambutol and rifampin — each of which may also have some side-effects. Duration of treatment varies from a short course treatment of 2-4 weeks to a longer course of 18-24 months. That will depend upon the doctor's judgment. Be thankful that treatment will eliminate the danger that your son will catch tuberculosis from his grandfather.

#### MEDICAL ETIQUETTE

(Replies to and from readers)

Dear Dr. Steincrohn: I've been told that one should not drink water while exerting. For example, I'll go into running as a hobby, taking it may produce stomach cramps. Shall I stay away from it? — Mr. C.

Dear Mr. C.: "Stay away from it" makes one think you're talking about dope, cigarettes, etc. No, drinking water is, in fact, good policy. The body requires fluid replenishment to prevent such complications as heat stroke, extreme fatigue and collapse.

For Mrs. B.: There are at least a quarter of a million cases of scleroderma in the United States. In many cases, it may seem an innocuous condition, producing trouble in the skin — rough and hard. But there may be internal complications in heart, lungs, kidneys or intestines. Unfortunately, we have no specific cure, but investigative research is going on. I hope we find some relief soon.

For Mr. Z.: Perhaps you're worrying unnecessarily about loss of sleep. The fact that you required at least nine hours of sleep nightly for most of your life doesn't indicate that sleeping only 7-8 hours is insomnia. Many persons require less sleep as they grow older. My guess is that you're far from being a true insomniac.

(Tomorrow: Are you a wood-burner?)

## Private stations' activities hitting Italy's state TV

By Peter Jarocki

VERONA (LOS) — The latest Italian TV viewing figures are causing RAI, the state-owned national broadcasting corporation, to squelch against the competition from 600 private TV stations and, in particular, the four private national networks.

The first private local TV station pirated its way on to the screen in 1976. That same year, this illegal initiative found the support of the high court, which declared unconstitutional a 1975 law banning private broadcasting. Since then private commercial stations have mushroomed.

What RAI really fears, though, are the large private national circuits, especially Milan's dynamic Canale 5. The latter has become the second most popular evening channel in Italy, with an audience of 15 million, and has overtaken RAI 2.

RAI is still number one but RAI 3, a

largely regional service launched a year ago to counteract the rash of local commercial stations, scarcely gets a look in.

The ingredients of success for the private stations have been cartoons during the day, films in the evening (which get increasingly spicy toward midnight) and American soap operas such as "Dallas".

The private stations are biting chunks out of RAI's revenue. Last year, for the first time, they overtook RAI (which gets two-thirds of its income from compulsory TV licences and the rest from advertising) by collecting more than \$300 million, while RAI managed to pick up only \$200 million from its commercials.

In response to this growing threat, RAI has launched a campaign for greater freedom from the legal restrictions which limit its activities. It is asking for permission to increase advertising space and for the right to change program content.

## Over subsidized farm exports

## U.S., EEC heading for bitter trade war

BRUSSELS, Feb. 5 (R) — The threat of a trans-Atlantic trade war loomed large when the European Economic Community warned it would act to counter any new U.S. moves to grab traditional European markets.

The warning came in talks here between the community's executive commission President Gaston Thorn and visiting U.S. Vice President George Bush.

A commission statement after the talks said the commission president told Bush the community was taken by surprise by last month's U.S. sale of a million tons of subsidized flour to Egypt.

The community was forced to file a complaint against the U.S. with the General Agreement for Tariffs and Trade (GATT) as the sale, at prices well below world market levels, constituted a take over of the Egyptian market for this commodity for 12 to 14 months.

## Taipei invests \$117.5m abroad

TAIPEI, Feb. 5 (CNA) — Taiwanese investments in foreign countries as approved by the government in the years between 1959 and 1982 totaled \$117.5 million, according to the Investment Commission of the Ministry of Economic Affairs of the Republic of China.

Statistics released by the commission indicated that the United States accounted for \$48 million or 40 percent of Chinese investments abroad.

In 1982, investments abroad dropped for a major portion of Taiwan's investment abroad, totaling \$38 million. It was followed by electronics and electrical appliance, accounting for \$13 million.

months. "We reserve the right to take counteraction if any further actions of this kind are taken," Thorn told his visitor.

Senior U.S. and community officials are due to meet here on Feb. 10 for a second round of talks aimed at lowering tension over farm exports.

The U.S. flour sale to Egypt, a market previously dominated by the European Community, came a week after the first round of talks in Washington last month.

Bush, at a press conference after his talks with Thorn and other community officials said the U.S. was committed to keeping the world trading system as free as possible.

But he would not be drawn on this particular dispute, only saying that the tone of his talks at the community was thoroughly productive.

Thorn also described the talks as productive but said the American action was hardly compatible with the spirit in which the talks on farm exports were launched, the community statement said.

But he praised Bush's visit as a "tangible sign" of the political will on both sides "to manage our affairs in a way which will preserve and develop a relationship on which so much depends for the whole world."

However, U.S. seems determined to pursue its policy of subsidized exports. Trade Representative Bill Brock said in Washington, the Reagan administration will, if necessary, subsidize exports of American farm products to increase the U.S. share of the world market.

"We will not sit on our hands if other governments act in such a way as to injure U.S. workers and industries," Brock told the congressional joint economic committee.

## Turks defend hiking transit fee for ships

ANKARA, Feb. 5 (R) — Turkey defended the legality of its ten-fold increase in transit charges on ships using the Bosphorus and Dardanelles straits and said it saw no need for talks on the issue.

Soviet ships have refused to pay the new rates since mid-December, running up a debt to Turkey of more than 1.5 billion Turkish lira (more than \$7.5 million), according to shipping sources in Istanbul.

A foreign ministry official dealing with maritime affairs, Riza Turmen, told Reuters the increases were legitimate under the terms of 1936 convention which tied the calculation of charges to the price of the gold franc. "Our decision was not a change in the charges, what has changed is the price of gold," Turmen said.

The charges for sanitary, life-saving and lighting services along the only link between the Black Sea and the Mediterranean, were raised last November without warning, causing protests from shipping companies and diplomats.

## Facing energy problem

## Nepal intensifies search for 'black gold'

KATMANDU, Feb. 5 (Depthnews) — Nepal, the tiny, landlocked country on the Himalayan ranges, has joined the global search for black gold.

The center of its exploration effort is an 800-kilometer-long piece of territory in the southern flatlands adjoining the hills. Government authorities admit that the search for oil under the rugged rock formations is a desperately longshot investment in the unknown. But Nepal is terribly strapped for oil, and fidgety about its mounting energy bill that cuts deep into its hard currency earnings.

An official document released recently warned that the energy problem was "serious" and "it will soon be beyond the means of the economy to meet rising import bills for energy." Nepal's energy demand is minuscule compared to that of other countries, but its oil bill is simply too heavy and burdensome on its internal resources. In 1981, Nepal's total oil consumption was only 60,000 liters.

Also in 1981, Nepal paid 50 million rupees (\$4 million) for its oil imports. This amount was equivalent to the foreign exchange component of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) aid to the country's development that year. But Nepal

pays its energy bill from its own meager foreign exchange income. In 1981, it spent 1/12 of its total receipts from the country's thriving tourist industry.

This amount also represented one-third of the total remittances of Gurkha soldiers serving abroad in 1981. Nepalese authorities are plainly worried about the effect of the oil crisis on the country's economy over the long haul. They fear that Nepal's balance of payment deficit would worsen if the country remained hostage to foreign energy sources.

The oil exploration effort is being financed by a \$9.2 million credit from the International Development Agency (IDA). The loan is for 50 years, including a 10-year grace period. The no-interest-bearing loan carries only a small annual commitment charge of half percent on the undisbursed balance of the credit and a service fee of 0.75 percent on disbursed amount.

Under the credit arrangement IDA will also provide technical consultants to supervise the seismic survey, and assistance to the government in negotiations with foreign oil companies on exploration rights.

The oil exploration project has reached only the "reconnaissance seismic survey" stage, but the Department of Geology and

Mines said experts have detected "encouraging signs" of potential oil deposits in the exploration area.

Back in 1980, oil explorers conducted an aeromagnetic survey in the designated exploration area, and the result showed the presence of geological structures capable of trapping oil and gas. They have expressed confidence that a new survey would show the presence of sub-surface geological structures of various rocks. "Once the nature of the rocks is established, it will be possible to identify potential underground reservoirs of petroleum," they said.

Provisions have been made to enlist foreign companies to undertake their own seismic survey and go into drilling operations. The Department of Geology and Mines has already formulated relevant legislations on oil exploration, stipulating the terms and conditions under which foreign companies should operate.

Officials said that existing legislations had to be updated "to attract foreign companies to come and work in Nepal and to ensure that the national interest is protected." Despite the cautious optimism among officials, they have gone to great lengths to try to dampen public expectations of an oil bonanza in the making.

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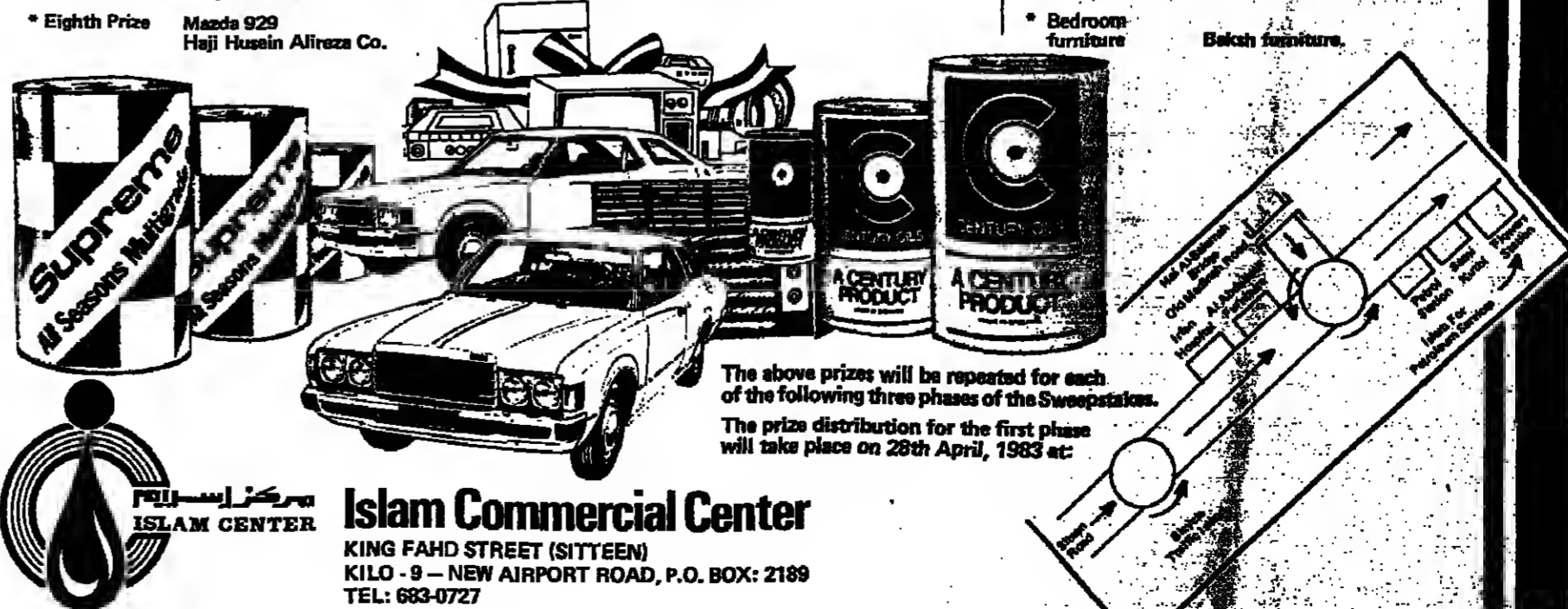
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## Sequel to OPEC's failure

# OAPEC sees no end to oil glut

KUWAIT, Feb. 5 (R) — OPEC's difficulties in sharing out oil sales condemn the world oil market to a continuing glut probably well into next year, the Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC) said Saturday.

The 10-nation Arab oil exporters' group said in its monthly bulletin that some OPEC (Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries) members' oil revenue was cut by up to 40 percent last year by world oversupply and their declining production.

OAPEC said attempts by non-OPEC oil-producing states to increase their exports were contributing to the problem.

OPEC faces what ministers call the gravest crisis in its history because some members, with Iran and Libya particularly blamed, are undercutting prices. Oil ministers failed last month to share out the market to prop up official prices.

Kuwait-based OAPEC said falling oil revenues were disrupting development plans

in exporting countries, but also offered a chance to conserve oil reserves for domestic development.

OAPEC said current policies stressing increased output raised the possibility of a repeat of the 1960s when prices were under downward pressure.

In a related development, OPEC Secretary-General Marc Nguma said in Caracas, no fall in oil prices was expected at present and blamed the oil glut on companies and the Soviet Union who he said were trying to get a bigger share of the market.

Nguma said industrialized countries had "flooded the market with their reserves, creating an artificial oversupply."

Nguma described talk of a possible price cut by the OPEC as "unfounded rumors propagated by the media, helped by the oil

companies and the Soviet Union. "But we in OPEC are acting responsibly and a fall in prices is not expected for the moment," he said.

Meanwhile, Indonesia's minister of mines and energy said in Jakarta, the important thing for OPEC now is to preserve unity, a vital requirement to defend the interests of oil exporting countries.

An agreement between OPEC member countries for the sake of oil price stability is of vital importance, especially to Indonesia, which depends for some 70 percent of its state income on oil, Subroto said.

Minister Subroto appealed to all OPEC members to exercise self-restraint in setting national production levels and oil prices, if they want to avoid oil prices declining further.

## Financial rand abolished

CAPE TOWN, Feb. 5 (R) — South African Finance Minister Owen Horwood announced Saturday the abolition of the financial rand and exchange controls over non-residents from Monday.

Exchange controls have existed on non-residents since 1961, and Horwood described the move as "a giant step forward for the South African economy."

The financial rand, which trades at a discount to the commercial rate, is the method by which non-residents can buy and sell shares and other assets in South Africa.

It was introduced as the blocked rand in 1961 when large amounts of capital left the country following disturbances at Sharpeville. The scope of the financial rand was widened in 1979 when an interim report of a monetary commission said the eventual aim was a unitary exchange rate system.

The decision means that from Monday, the local proceeds of sales of South African securities, real estate and other investments held by non-residents, will be freely transferable from South Africa at the ruling exchange rate.

Such proceeds may also be freely used in

the rand monetary area — South Africa, Lesotho and Swaziland — by non-residents for investment or other purposes. At the close of trading Friday, the commercial rand was worth about 92.9 U.S. cents and the financial rand about 77.25 cents.

Horwood said that the short and long-term effects of the new measure on money, credits, interest rates, share prices, and exchange rates were impossible to predict accurately and it was clear there would inevitably be a number of adjustments.

"I confidently expect, however, that after some initial uncertainty, these prices and quantities will settle down and the net outcome will represent a fundamentally sounder underlying situation for the South African economy." He said there could be an easing back from the present commercial rate but had no doubt in would recover pretty soon.

In a prepared statement handed out at a press conference, Horwood said: "We are taking this bold forward step from a position of underlying strength and in the confident expectation that it will yield important benefits to the South African economy in the years ahead."

## BRIEFS

BRUSSELS (AFP) — The commission of the European Economic Community (EEC) is to press France for details of aid apparently offered by the government to the United States firm Texaco to tempt it to set up a watch-making plant in Besancon in eastern France. EEC sources said here. Earlier, Brit-

ish Secretary of State for Scotland George Younger said that Britain suspected France of violating EEC rules by offering Texaco \$50 million francs (about \$80 million).

COPENHAGEN (R) — Denmark's total net reserves rose to 27.91 billion crowns last month from an upward revised 20.99 billion in December and 21.19 billion a year earlier, the central bank said. Net official reserves rose to 30.06 billion crowns in January from December's 20.81 billion and compared with 21.40 billion a year ago.

NEW YORK (R) — Chrysler Corp. said its board approved the company's previously-announced recapitalization plan. The company said the plan provides for Chrysler's 1981 series preferred stock to be reclassified into common stock. It was approved in principal by Chrysler's bank lenders and other financial institutions last month.

ROME (R) — Italy's powerful Communist Party (PCI) Saturday accused Prime Minister Amintore Fanfani of lying about changes in management at state energy corporation ENI and made clear it would pursue its attack on the government over the issue. Fanfani on Friday appointed former Socialist Finance Minister Franco Reviglio as new chairman of the group after the sacking last week of Umberto Colombo. The choice gained the full support of his four-party coalition.

## Tanker mart activity at standstill

LONDON, Feb. 5 (AFP) — Business came to a virtual standstill on the tanker market this week as the entire industry waited for some clarifications of the confused oil-price picture.

The Gulf states offered little employment. Iran was again the most active supplier, particularly for large ships. And a small premium was paid to a very large crude carrier (VLCC) fixed to Japan.

Liftings out of Indonesia were fragmented, with a much-reduced rate being paid to the West Coast of the United States. Loadings out of West Africa came to a dead stop, with shipbrokers reporting no quotes at all.

The Mediterranean remained in the doldrums, although fixing was more active there than anywhere else. The Caribbeans were not over-active, though later there was a slight improvement.

There was nothing to report in the period section, which was as lifeless as it has been for many weeks now.

## Reagan denounces truckers' strike

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5 (R) — President Ronald Reagan denounced a nationwide strike by independent U.S. truckers and said he had no intention of meeting their demand for repeal of a petrol tax increase.

"To let a small percentage of any group of people, by the use of murder and violence of the kind that they have used, change the laws of this country would be the worst precedent we could set," he told a news conference.

More than 600 incidents of violence against non-striking drivers have been reported since the work stoppage began Monday. At least 250 trucks have been hit by gunfire and one driver has been shot dead.

Attorney General William French Smith said Friday the Justice Department was considering federal prosecution in some cases. The truckers, who transport 90 percent of the country's vegetable and fruit produce from farm to market, are demanding the repeal of a five cents a gallon petrol tax increase approved by Congress late last year.

The revenue will be used to maintain and repair federal highways, many of which are in bad condition. The damage is frequently blamed on heavy trucks and Reagan called the new tax a "user fee." He said like any other business tax it could be passed on to customers.

## Sudan reschedules \$500 million debt

PARIS, Feb. 5 (R) — Creditors countries have rescheduled around \$500 million of Sudan's debt due to be repaid in 1983, diplomatic sources said Saturday.

The sum, covering principal, interest and arrears, was rescheduled over 16 years with a six-year grace period by creditors, including the U.S., 13 European states and Japan, at a meeting in Paris this week.

The rescheduling period is longer than normally granted to debtor countries because of Sudan's serious debt problems. In March last year creditors rescheduled Sudan's 1982 debt over a period of 10 years with a four-year grace period.

Although a number of countries have larger debts, Sudan's debt, estimated at \$7 billion, is larger than its total export income, the sources said.

## Financial Roundup

# Dollar closes on strong note

By J.H. Hammond

JEDDAH, Feb. 5 — The dollar closed on a strong note on the New York exchanges Friday night, boosted by a \$2.7 billion rise in the weekly U.S. money supply figures. The latest M1 money supply aggregates were higher than expected following the \$800 million fall in the previous week's figures, and on Friday the money markets reacted by pushing U.S. dollar interest rates up.

Interbank dollar deposit rates rose by around 1/16 percent but the rises were uneven in all tenors with some money market dealers still fearing that the U.S. Federal Reserve Board might cut back on its discount rate in the near future. With Federal Reserve "Fed fund" prime lending rates at around 8 1/2 percent the likelihood that the discount rate would be cut seems somewhat remote, but considering that the dollar was under pressure on the markets only a month ago, the market situation could change rapidly.

On the money markets, the one-month rate was trading at a comfortable 9 1/2 percent levels, while the 3-month Eurodollar deposit rate traded around 9 1/2 percent level but still down by 1/2 percent over the highs reached on mid-week trading.

The bullion markets were mixed Friday in New York, with gold closing at just below the \$500 level but silver remaining firm at \$14.5 an ounce which has pleased most silver dealers since they feared that silver prices will fall back along with gold. Still

silver prices seem to have broken through the psychologically important barrier of \$14.00 an ounce.

In the New York markets, the British pound fell back by another 100 points to trade at 1.5130 levels from 1.5230 on Thursday on renewed worries over OPEC oil prices falls. The Bank of England did not intervene too aggressively on the exchanges Friday in support of the pound and this raised some speculation that the British authorities might not be too averse to seeing the pound fall for competitive reason as the December trade figures seemed to illustrate. These showed a 10 year record of a surplus trade account of over 800 million sterling.

In other currency news, the French franc was easier at 7.0380 levels, while the Japanese yen was just under the 240.50 level. It had opened at 237.50 earlier in the week. The Swiss franc was weaker at 2.0360 while the German mark was down to 2.4750 levels on rising fears over the outcome of the German elections.

In the local markets, the spot rial/dollar rate was quoted around 3.4403-08 levels in dull trading that was characterized mostly by commercial buying orders.

The rial deposit rates were generally stable although some small rises were registered on the shorter end of the market to take the week-fixed rate to 6 percent levels from 5 1/2 percent opening rates. The one-month JIBOR was directionless at around 7 - 7 1/2 percent levels.

## Talking car graces U.S. show

NEW YORK, Feb. 5 (AP) — Henry Ford would not have believed his ears. A car at the New York International Automobile Show this week was talking.

The talking Chrysler would not have been the only surprise for the pioneer of the American car industry, for the annual auto exhibit was as much a display of microprocessors and computer chips as it was of transmission systems.

Virtually all of the more than 700 new domestic and foreign 1983 models at the show contained on-board computers that do a variety of tasks from gauging engine speed to letting the driver know he is low on gas.

"The automobile industry has moved from the machine age to the high tech age," said David J. Jacobson, a marketing consultant for the U.S. industry.

Among the leaders of the move to high tech is Chrysler's electronic voice alert, which informs the driver in a synthesized male voice through the car radio speaker about such problems as window washer fluid or oil pressure. The feature is available in English, French or Spanish.

Toyota and Ford have versions of the talking car as well. Ford's Lincoln-Mercury line also has a voice recognition system that responds to the driver's voice commands, performing such tasks as turning on the headlights and opening the trunk.

The U.S. auto industry, long dominant in medium and large-sized cars, is now trying to move into the small-car market. It has spent more than \$80 billion in the past three years to produce smaller, more fuel efficient cars, which it hopes will cut into sales from Japan and Europe that last year comprised about 28 percent of the U.S. market.

For the first 20 days of January, sales of new American-made cars in the United States were up 12 percent over the same period a year ago.

"There is no doubt (Americans') perception of domestic quality has improved," said Jay Ferron, a researcher for the National

Automobile Dealers Association, which represents foreign and domestic dealerships in the United States.

Among the trends in American cars is a return to the convertible top, four-speed manual transmission and front-wheel drive — features common to foreign cars for years. Virtually all of Ford's models have a softer, less-angled look. Pontiac plans to introduce a two-passenger car with a low, sleek design.

The NADA has forecast a "significant increase" in sales of U.S.-made cars in 1983, while sales of foreign cars are expected to flatten out, Ferron said.

"The U.S. carmakers are getting smarter," said Gary Schiavone, a New York City resident who bought a Datsun a few years ago, but now owns a Chrysler and is looking to buy an American car again.

## Austria's trade gap narrows by 21%

VIENNA, Feb. 5 (R) — Austria's trade deficit narrowed by 21 percent in 1982 to 65.69 billion schillings from 82.74 billion in 1981, the central statistics office said.

Exports rose six percent to 266.86 billion schillings from 251.77 billion, while imports shrunk one percent to 332.55 billion schillings from 334.51 billion.

In December imports totaled 26.87 billion schillings, one percent more than December 1981, and exports rose four percent to 23.98 billion schillings, to give a 2.90 billion schillings deficit, one fifth less than in December 1981, it said.

The statistics office said in 1982 the European Economic Community accounted for 61 percent of Austrian imports and 53 percent of exports. Exports to the EEC rose seven percent against 1981 to 141.64 billion schillings while imports rose three percent to 203.37 billion schillings.

## WAREHOUSE MANAGER

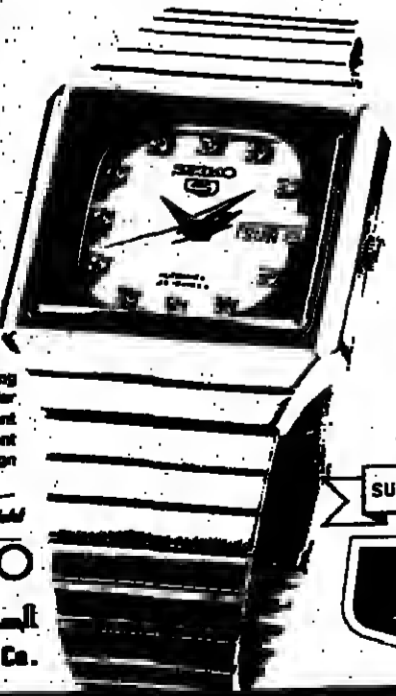
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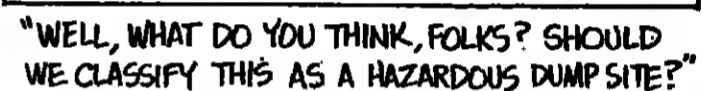
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ON A YEAR LIKE 1982."

Dingman  
1983 The Ontario Sentinel  
Field Newspaper Syndicate



## Contract Bridge ♠♥♦♣ B. Jay and Steve Becker

## Fancy Footwork

**West dealer.**  
**North-South vulnerable.**

trumps, and returned a club. West took the ace and could do no better than play a third round of clubs to dummy's queen, on which South discarded a spade. This was now the position:

no better than play a dummy round of clubs to dummy's queen, on which South discarded a spade. This was now the position:

NORTH		South	
♠AK53	♣Q107	♠A53	♣Q10
♥86	♦QJ4	♥Q6	
WEST		EAST	
♠J	♣Q1097	West	East
♥85	♥76	♦KJ1094	♦Q109
♦KJ1094	♦7532	♠109	♦7532
♠AK1093	♠862		
SOUTH		South	
♠8642	♥KJ943	♠86	♥J94
♥KJ943	♦AQ	♦AQ	

The bidding:

West	North	East	South

Opening lead — king of clubs.

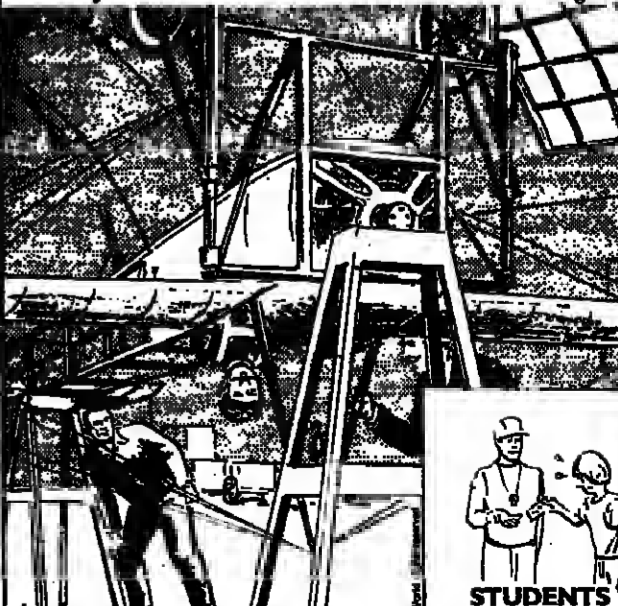
If you look at all four hands, it seems that declarer will lose four tricks and go down one. The spades break 4-1 rather than 3-2, and the diamond finesse, if and when attempted, fails.

But declarer actually made four hearts; furthermore, it all came about in a perfectly logical way.

West led the king of clubs and shifted to his singleton spade. Declarer won with the king, cashed the A-K of

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## Riley's Believe It or Not!



**ADOLPHE PÉGOUD**  
a French pilot, to practice for an upside down flight in 1913, had his plane hung upside down on trestles and was strapped in it

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high schools  
because of  
budget pinches  
must pay to  
participate in

## Your Individual Horoscope

— Frances Drake —  
FOR SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1983

**ARIES**  
(Mar. 21 to Apr. 19)   
Don't be touchy about helping an in-law has to offer. Luck is with you regarding travel and distant interests. Make plans for future.

**TAURUS**  
(Apr. 20 to May 20)   
Joint shopping expeditions are favored, though a friend may show signs of jealousy regarding a purchase. Make security your priority.


**GEMINI**  
(May 21 to June 20)   
A


It's an exciting time for you  
and a loved one. Some decide  
to marry. Don't let a family  
member feel left out of your  
happiness.


**CANCER** (♋♋)  
(June 21 to July 22)  
New work opportunities  
come your way or you may  
decide to work overtime on a  
project. Be sensitive to others'  
needs.


**LEO** (♌)  
(July 23 to Aug. 22)  
This is the perfect day for

sports and other recreational pursuits. You'll attract romance, but watch spending.

**VIRGO**  
(Aug. 23 to Sept. 22)   
You have the green light regarding domestic decisions. Join other family members for happy times. Entertain if you like.

**LIBRA**  
(Sept. 23 to Oct. 22)   
You'll get a welcome response from those you visit today. Luck may come through a neighbor. Pay attention to health rules.

**SCORPIO**  
(Oct. 23 to Nov. 21)   
New chances come for financial gain, but it's questionable as to whether a hobby can be turned into a profit-making activity.

**SAGITTARIUS**  
(Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) 

You'll feel on top of the world today and will impress those you contact. Self-absorption, though, could lead to inconsiderate behavior.

**CAPRICORN** ♑  
(Dec. 22 to Jan. 19)  
You're happily engaged in a pet project and will also find time to do something nice for somebody who's feeling under par.

**AQUARIUS** ♒  
(Jan. 20 to Feb. 18)  
You'll meet some interesting types today. By all means socialize! Friends are in the mood to give you any help you need.

**PISCES** ♓  
(Feb. 19 to Mar. 20)  
An unexpected career opportunity could drop into your lap. Participate in community affairs. Luck may come through a parent.

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## As Accra appeals for food

# Last major Ghanaian group leaves Lagos

Lagos, Feb. 5 (Agencies) — The last known large group of Ghanaians expelled from Nigeria as illegal aliens left for home early Saturday morning on a ship sent from Accra, port officials said. They said the ship carried around 1,000 persons, about one-fifth of its capacity.

The ship had arrived Wednesday but its departure was delayed because not enough Ghanaians came forward to fill it. Ghanaian diplomats Friday went on Lagos radio to tell any remaining Ghanaians that space was available on the ship. Most of the estimated one million Ghanaians in Nigeria have taken the overland route through Benin and Togo. In all, the Nigerian expulsion order has affected nearly two million illegal West African aliens in Nigeria.

Nigeria gave illegal aliens two weeks to leave the country, a deadline that passed at midnight last Monday for unskilled and unemployed workers. Skilled and professional people have until the end of this month to leave.

Meanwhile, the government of Ghana has appealed to the world for food, saying the return of at least a million deportees from Nigeria has turned a grave food shortage into a national crisis.

As Nigeria defended the expulsions before the United Nations, the International Red Cross in Geneva said Friday that the flood of Ghanaians and other West Africans returning home had created an emergency of

proportions similar to the exodus of the Vietnamese boat people.

"It will be a terrible problem for a long period," Hans Hoegh, secretary general of the League of National Red Cross Societies, told reporters. He stressed the need for sustained massive international assistance to the returnees.

Accra radio said Friday night that congestion at the transit camps on the trade fair center at Accra, at Tema sports stadium 32 kms to the northeast, at Agotime-Kpetoe on the border with Togo and at the Aflao crossing point, also on the border with Togo, had been reduced considerably from what it was earlier this week.

But the radio quoted Commodore S.G. Obimbeh, Ghana's repatriation task force commander, as saying the deportees now back in Ghana have started "to pose a national crisis."

Officials said Ghana already was in difficulty feeding its estimated 12 million citizens before the exodus from Nigeria began, and was facing a shortfall of 378,000 tons of corn caused largely by lack of rain.

Since the exodus, officials say the country needs 50,000 tons of imported cereals between now and next September for its swollen population. As a first step, the Provisional National Defense Council headed by Flight Lt. Jerry Rawlings has asked the outside world for 250,000 tons of cereals. It lacks facilities to store more.

## Mengistu plans Tigray offensive

TIGRAY, Feb. 5 (ONS) — Fighters in Ethiopia's drought-stricken Tigray region report that the Soviet-backed central government is gearing up for its seventh major military offensive there.

Western intelligence sources in Khartoum confirm that between 35,000 and 50,000 government troops are positioned in Tigray, a semi-mountainous territory flanked to the west by Sudan and to the north by the former Italian colony of Eritrea. Officials of the eight-year-old Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) expect 70,000 soldiers to be deployed before the next round of fighting begins.

Battling for what it terms "national self-determination" for Tigray's five million people, the TPLF has won growing public support, enabling it to hold off the advances of black Africa's largest standing army. A 10-week walking tour of Tigray with the fighters found them in firm control of the bulk of the countryside. Government forces are confined to urban garrisons where they

come under frequent attack from sizable and well-organized TPLF units which operate openly in territory close to government strongholds.

Against this backdrop of intermittent warfare, Tigray is plagued by the worst drought since the 1973-74 famine that killed more than 100,000 peasants in Tigray and as many more in Ethiopia's Wollo Province.

Relief officials say four million people living in areas of Tigray administered by the TPLF are not receiving drought assistance channeled through the central government by the U.N. and other international agencies. According to the Relief Society of Tigray, the only organization providing assistance to families in TPLF-held areas, over a million of these peasants are in urgent need of immediate assistance. Drought was a catalyst in the 1974 downfall of Ethiopia's U.S.-supported Emperor Haile Selassie. That same danger today faces the Marxist regime of Mengistu Haile Mariam in Addis Ababa.

## For malaria research

# WHO panel arrives in Thailand

BANGKOK, Feb. 5 (AP) — Four medical experts from the World Health Organization (WHO) arrived here Saturday for two weeks of research into malaria and nutritional problems among people living along the Thai-Cambodian border.

Mission leader Dr. William Gunn, in charge of the U.N.'s worldwide emergency relief operations, said there was increasing concern over malarial mosquitoes which had developed a new pattern of resistance to available drugs there. He added that the shifting population along the Thai-Cambodian border had made a controlled study difficult. There are about 200,000 Cambodian

civilians in encampments on the border or just inside Cambodia in areas controlled by guerrillas battling the Phnom Penh government and allied Vietnamese troops.

Gunn said his mission had not ruled out the possibility of entering Cambodia, but it may prove difficult because of fighting there. He said the team's mandate was not political but medical. His mission will cover the whole health front, including other patterns of disease and sanitation, he said. His four-man team from the Geneva-based organization was due to convene Sunday and will be joined by other medical personnel already in Thailand, he said.

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SALVADOR CITY RETAKEN: The Salvador town of Berlin was retaken by government troops after the rebels withdrew from the area Friday. The picture shows a rebel leftist guerrilla reading a newspaper which announced that the key eastern city has been retaken by troops.

## For Vietnam offensive

# China to step up arms aid, Sihanouk reveals

PEKING, Feb. 5 (R) — Non-Communist fighters recently attacked by Vietnamese troops in the Thai border area withdrew in time to avoid heavy losses. Kampuchean resistance leader Norodom Sihanouk said Saturday.

The Vietnamese early this month attacked Nang Chan refugee camp, controlled by the Khmer People's National Liberation Front forces of Son Sann, and home to 48,000 Kampuchean refugees.

Prince Sihanouk told a press conference that Gen. Im Tam, commander-in-chief of the Sihanoukist faction, had sent him a telegram which said losses among non-Communist forces in the area were not important. He said Hanoi was now focusing its attacks on non-Communist guerrillas because the strongest partner in the resistance coalition, the pro-Peking Khmer Rouge Communists ousted from Phnom Penh in 1979, was successful on the battlefield.

Answering questions a day after meetings with Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, the prince said China had agreed to provide more ammunition for his own royalist guerrilla force to help it through Vietnam's current dry season offensive.

China had given "my faction additional ammunition for guns, mortars, machine-guns and rifles, enough to meet the needs of fighting the Vietnamese on the battlefield in this dry season," he said. There are still several months to go before seasonal rains in Kampuchea make military operations impossible and the prince said that by then he might have to ask for more weapons.

Prince Sihanouk said he had not asked for arms from the U.S. during his meeting with Shultz because he knew Washington was not ready to give weapons. Only humanitarian aid, he said, his faction numbered about 5,000 men but he had enough volunteers to increase the total to between 10,000 and 20,000 if he got more military aid.

Commenting on prospects for an accommodation between himself and the pro-Hanoi government of Heng Samrin, Prince Sihanouk said neither the Soviet Union nor Vietnam were willing to grant Kampuchea its independence. "I cannot accept a compromise with the Soviets and the Vietnamese unless they recognize that my people and my country are independent," he said. "They plan to get Sihanouk as a new puppet in their hands. I am not a puppet of anybody."

## Film shooting damages China's hall

PEKING, Feb. 5 (AP) — A famed hall at the tombs of 13 Ming dynasty emperors suffered serious damage during the filming of the Italian-American television production of *Marco Polo*, the Peking Evening News said Friday.

The newspaper, under the headline "Belated Report," mainly described the damage to the Hall of Eminent Favors of the Chang Ling, the tomb of the Emperor Yungle, who ruled from 1403 to 1425. But it did not say much about how it was caused.

The newspaper quoted Song Wenzhong, deputy director of the tombs, as saying, "when some of the production people from

Marco Polo were recklessly pounding in nails, Vice Chairman Liao Mosao of the Peking CPPCC, sternly stopped that kind of behavior, but..." The headline also blamed the damage on "movie filming."

CPPCC is the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, the nation's united front organization.

The paper said some of the hall's golden bricks were damaged, in a pattern as if a whip had been cracked across them, some were covered with a white substance, nails were left sticking out in various places, and some paintings on wall and ceiling surfaces had been pried out or scratched.

## Andrew's colleague dies in crash

LONDON, Feb. 5 (AP) — A Sea King helicopter from the British aircraft carrier *HMS Invincible* crashed into the sea off the coast of Portugal this week, killing the pilot, the Defense Ministry said Friday.

Prince Andrew, who also flies Sea Kings from the ship, was not involved in the accident, it said. A ministry spokesman said the helicopter had been engaged in deck landing practice at midday Wednesday when it ditched 10 kms from the carrier, which is on its way to the Caribbean for exercises with the U.S. Navy.

"Three of the four-man crew escaped, but

the fourth, the pilot, is missing, presumed dead," the spokesman said. The pilot was identified as Sub-Lt. Malcolm Kelham, 24.

A board of inquiry into the incident will be held," the ministry spokesman said.

Like Kelham, Andrew, 22-year-old second son of Queen Elizabeth II, is a sub-lieutenant assigned to 820 squadron on *Invincible* and flew anti-submarine patrols during last year's Falklands War with Argentina.

The ministry spokesman said it was not known if Andrew was participating in Wednesday's practice.

## FBI arrests \$11m theft suspect

MIAMI, Feb. 5 (AP) — A man accused of directing the \$11 million Armored Car Company robbery that was the biggest cash theft in U.S. history was arrested Saturday, authorities said.

Demetrios Patandakos, 35, of New York, was arrested at a house here at about 1:30 a.m. under a federal warrant issued in New York charging him with bank larceny, Federal Bureau of Investigation spokesman

Chris Mazzella said.

Two other men already have been arrested in the Dec. 13 robbery at the Sentry Armored Car-Courier Co. in the Bronx section of New York. "We consider (Patandakos) to be person who directed the theft among the group," said Mazzella.

None of the \$11 million taken in the hold-up has been recovered, said Mazzella.

## Surrender to pressure ruled out Jaruzelski charges U.S. with waging cold war

WARSAW, Feb. 5 (R) — Poland's Communist leader Wojciech Jaruzelski Saturday accused the United States of turning U.S.-Polish relations into a cold war and said his country would not bow before American pressure.

Gen. Jaruzelski, in an interview with the Hungarian Communist Party newspaper *Nepszabadsag*, said there were signs of improving ties with West European states but this was being hampered by what he called the aggressiveness of the U.S. Polish-U.S. relations have soured since the firm application of American sanctions in response to martial law. Poland has said it will reduce scientific and cultural ties and closed down the office of the United Press International (UPI) news agency.

In his interview, published in full by the Polish news agency PAP, Gen. Jaruzelski also said the planned visit to Poland in June by Pope John Paul would be "a vital element" in church-state relations. But he reiterated earlier government statements that right conditions must first be created and repeated complaints against "some parts of

the clergy (who) get involved with matters which has nothing to do with religion."

On U.S.-Polish relations, the general said: "These relations are bad. I will say more. They are very bad. It is not, however, Poland which is to blame. It was not we who started the unnecessary American-Polish cold war."

Warsaw wishes to improve the relations, he said, but Washington must first "return to the universally-binding norms of international life." This would involve "renouncing anti-Polish moves and actions and observing existing agreements."

The Polish government was particularly angered by the U.S. decision to suspend most-favored nation trading status last October in response to the dissolving of the Independent Solidarity trade union. It has also been deeply disappointed by the decision to maintain sanctions despite the suspension of martial law on Dec. 30. "Maintaining the present policy toward Poland has no purpose or prospects. We did not step back in the face of pressure, when times were hardest for us, and we are not going to step back today," Gen. Jaruzelski said.

## Basque suspected

# 2 bankmen die in Bilbao blast

BILBAO, Spain, Feb. 5 (Agencies) — An explosion, suspected to be the work of Basque separatist guerrillas, ripped through the head offices of the Banco de Vizcaya here Saturday, killing two employees and injuring seven others, police said.

The explosion, just before 0900 GMT, blasted through the fourth and fifth floors of the bank's Tower Block offices in central Bilbao. Bank clerks Ramon Irujo, 40, and Anibal Izquierdo, 48, were killed outright in the explosion which other employees described as terrifying. "I was sitting writing at my typewriter when the explosion blew me two meters backward," employee Leon Ordorica said.

Police said the attack appeared to have been carried out by the separatist organization ETA (Basque Homeland and Freedom) which is fighting for an independent state in the Basque country.

The seven injured in the blast were taken

to a nearby hospital, where the condition of one was described as serious. At midday, about 3,500 persons silently walked through the center of Bilbao to demonstrate their anger at the attack and other bank offices in the city closed in sympathy. The multi-storied Banco de Vizcaya offices, where about 600 persons are employed, were evacuated immediately after the explosion.

The bank's branches are frequent targets of terrorist action and security is tight at its head offices where armed guards carry out rigorous security checks.

Noting that ETA bombs were usually left outside, rather than inside buildings, officials said Saturday's attack was the first time any of the recent bank bombings seemed designed to kill. The blast in Bilbao followed two pre-dawn explosions at a branch of the Banco Guipuzcoano in Logroño, Rioja Province, and an electrical appliance store in Pamplona, Navarra Province, police said. No injuries were reported in either incident.

## Stambolic begins Burma visit

RANGOON, Feb. 5 (Agencies) — Yugoslav President Petar Stambolic arrived in Burma Saturday for a four-day official visit and talks with President Sao Yu expected to focus on nonalignment.

Burma withdrew from the 97-member nonaligned movement in 1979 after a summit conference in Havana decided to vacate Kampuchea's seat, which was being contested by the ousted Khmer Rouge and the Vietnamese-backed Heng Samrin government. Diplomatic sources said Burma had no plan to send observers to next month's nonaligned summit in New Delhi.

Summit host India has refused to invite

Kampuchean leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk to the conference as demanded by non-Communist member countries in Southeast Asia. The sources said the two leaders, in their meeting Monday, would also discuss a projected second copper refinery to be financed and built with Yugoslav aid.

In 1978, Yugoslavia provided a \$70-million loan to Burma for its first copper smelter plant. Earlier, in a communique issued in Jakarta, Stambolic and Subarto of Indonesia called for the withdrawal of foreign troops from Kampuchea and Afghanistan.

		Min		Max				Min		Max	
		C	F	C	F			C	F	C	F
Amsterdam	-2	28	4	39	cloudy	Los Angeles	9	49	18	65	clear
Athens	14	57	20	68	clear	Madrid	-4	25	15	59	cloudy
Bahrain	25	77	31	88	clear	Mexico City	10	50	25	77	clear
Bangkok	8	46	15	59	clear	Miami	13	55	20	67	clear
Belgrade	-3	27	3	37	clear	Montreal	-10	14	-4	25	snow
Berlin	0	32	3	37	snow	Moscow	-7	19	-2	28	snow
Buenos Aires	19	66	30	86	clear	New Delhi	6	44	19	67	clear
Cairo	7	45	16	61	cloudy	New York	1	34	4	39	clear
Chicago	-13	8	-7	19	clear	Nicosia	8	46	14	57	cloudy
Copenhagen	1	34	3	37	snow	Oso	-5	23	-1	34	cloudy
Dublin	5	41	10	50	cloudy	Peking	0	37	7	45	clear
Frankfurt	3	37	4	39	cloudy	Rio de Janeiro	20	68	33	91	cloudy
Geneva	0	32	4	39	cloudy	Rome	-1	30	12	54	clear
Havana	19	66	23	73	clear	Sao Francisco	8	47	15	58	cloudy
Helsinki	-11	12	-8	0	clear	Saudi	-1	30	7	45	clear
Hong Kong	14	57	14	57	rain	Singapore	23	73	32	90	clear
Honolulu	17	63	27	80	clear	Stockholm	-11	12	-3	27	clear
Jakarta	22	72	30	86	rain	Sydney	12	54	27	81	clear
Kuala Lumpur	22	72	34	91	clear	Taipei	11	52	14	57	rain
Lima	24	75	29	85	clear	Tokyo	14	57	14	57	rain
Lisbon	4	39	17	63	clear	Toronto	-9	16	-6	21	snow
London	5	41	7	45	cloudy	Vancouver	-4	25	6	43	fox

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